

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! We hope you have had a lovely Christmas break. We are excited to have the children back, ready to start a new term.

The following newsletter provides information about what your child will be learning during the spring term, along with a brief reminder of some of our classroom routines.

Homework and spellings will continue to be uploaded to SeeSaw on a **Thursday** to be completed by the following **Monday** and your child's spelling test will continue take place on a **Tuesday morning**. Reading books will be sent home each night but, because your child reads in school, it is important that reading books are in school every day. May I also take this opportunity to remind you of the impact which regular reading at home will have on your child's progress. Children should be evidencing their reading, each time they read, in their reading diary and these should also be returned each day.

Numeracy: Children will focus on various aspects of maths, including: Decimals, Percentages, Ratio, Algebra, Perimeter, Area and Volume and Converting units of Measure

English

Writing: Our English will centre around the text 'Goodnight Mr Tom' We will be writing in a range of genres such as: stories, formal letter writing, newspaper article, persuasion and poetry

Grammar: We will learn and revise how to: use bullet points consistently; use adverbials of time, place and number; use a colon and semicolons in a list; use hyphens; and use the passive voice

Reading: the children will have focused reading lessons on a Monday. They will cover a range of different reading skills such as: maintaining positive attitudes to reading and understanding of what they read; summarising the main ideas drawn from more than one paragraph; identifying key details that support the main ideas; identifying how language, structure and presentation contribute to meaning; participate in discussions about books that are read to them and those they can read for themselves, building on their own and others' ideas and challenging views courteously

Music: In music, the children will study post WWII swing and jazz music. Some of the key skills covered will include: understanding the meaning of tempo, metre, instrumentation and melody and talk about the features after listening to pieces of music; compose a short piece of music with 8 different notes and rhythms including some off-beat/syncopated in 3/4 or 4/4: perform a short piece of music confidently and accurately individually and as part of a group; and begin to sing musically, attempting to respond to phrasing, dynamics, tempo etc.

DT: We will look at rationing during WW11 and dishes which were popular at that time. To develop their skills in DT, the children will spend time looking at ingredients and how it relates to their weekly food allowance. They will think about how they can make a product using part of their rationed food but also include some food products that could be home grown to add flavour. Children will think about how to scale the recipe down so that their rationed foods could last. They will plan and design a product, scaling amounts accordingly.

Computing: As part of digital literacy, we will learn how to keep safe on the internet. Following this, we will spend time learning how to use Excel where we will focus on: being able to share work from a personal folder to work collaboratively with others; know how to add data into a prepared spreadsheet to answer simple questions; and know how to create a simple formula in a spreadsheet to work out given mathematical tasks such as adding a set of numbers.

History: We will learn about WWII. We will learn when and why World War II began and find out about the key individuals and countries involved. In addition to this, we will discover all about evacuation; learn what it was like to live with food rationing and explore the contribution made by women to the war effort. Furthermore, we will learn important facts about the Holocaust and investigate events that were key turning points in the war, such as the Battle of Britain and the German invasion of the USSR.

R.E.

In our 'Sources' topic, we will learn about a wide variety of books and the purpose for which they were written and about The Bible as the story of God's love, told by the People of God. In our 'Unity' topic, we will learn what nourishes and what spoils friendship and unity and about how The Eucharist challenges and enables the Christian family to live and grow in communion every day. As we move towards Lent, we will study death and new life where the children will learn how loss and death bring about change for people and about the Church's season of Lent, Holy Week and Easter.

French: We will learn how talk about our family in French as well as all about France as a country

Art: Using WWII as our focus, we will further develop our printing techniques and textile work to create collage artwork. We will look at using a variety of different materials and develop our collaborative skills to create a group collage.

RSHE: We will explore the body and our health, emotional well-being and life cycles

PE: This term we will be focusing on: throwing and jumping, gymnastics, hockey and badminton. PE will take place each **Wednesday** and **Thursday** and children are required to wear their PE kits on those days

Science: We will be learning about living things and their habitats. A lot of time will be spent on developing the children's investigation skills and working scientifically

We do hope you find this information useful – if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,
Mrs Jones & Mrs Fortune