

Amber Class Newsletter

Autumn Term 2017

A very warm welcome to Amber Class! I hope you had a restful holiday and feel refreshed, ready for the coming year. We have a busy term ahead of us, continuing to work through the Primary National Curriculum and beginning our exciting topics.

This newsletter will give you an insight into some of the work we will be covering and will provide some helpful reminders.

Home learning and spellings

We will be setting maths and literacy (SPaG) home learning once a week; both will be set on a Monday and we expect the children to have completed both pieces by the following Monday. The home learning tasks will usually be a number of Mathletics and Spellodrome tasks, though it may sometimes be a piece of written work. The children have their logins in the back of their contact books. If your child does not have access to the internet at home there is a Mathletics and Spellodrome club running every lunchtime. If you have any questions about this please ask me.

The children will also receive a spelling pack with spellings, specifically for them, for them to practice during the week. We will work with them weekly on their spellings and once they are confident with spelling the words and using them in their work, we will set some more. The children will work on their spellings in school every day.

We are always very grateful for your support and if you can ensure that your child completes their home learning neatly and by the correct day it will be much appreciated.

Reading

The children are expected to read for at least 15 minutes EVERY day. The children must record this in the reading record page in the contact books and an adult should sign it. Please listen to them read at least once a week and record this in the contact books.

In Amber class, when the children have recorded that they have read every day they get a sticker. The child who has read the most in a week becomes Star Reader and can also earn gems for class golden time. The child who has been Star Reader the most throughout the year will get to choose a brand new book for a prize!

Computing

This term, the children will be learning about the benefits to using the internet and how to stay safe when using this technology. They will also be learning how to create and use artwork on a computer.

P.E

Thank you to all of you who have sent in PE kits already. Our PE lessons are on Tuesday and Thursday. Please could you ensure that earrings are removed for PE days as we do not want any accidents. Please could also you make sure that all PE clothing items are named as they do sometimes get mislaid. Some of these lessons will be outside, even during the colder months so please make sure your child has the following:

- Plimsolls or trainers

- T-shirt (coloured t-shirts are available from PMG Schoolwear)
- Shorts
- Jogging bottoms

Over the course of the term, the children will be developing their skills through a number of gymnastic activities. For our outdoor lessons we will learn rugby and golf. We are lucky to have Mr Tanner from Coombe Boys School to lead our outdoor PE lessons.

R.E

Our focus for R.E. for the first half term is the natural world and the responsibilities we have to look after our world. After half term we will be studying Christmas and how this is celebrated in the church.

Cornerstones

Our first topic in the autumn term is Flow, which is based on geography. The children will learn all about rivers, what they can be used for and the physical features that form from them. We are very excited to start off our first topic with our trip to the School on a River at Teddington Lock on ***Tuesday 12th September***. Please remember to return the permission slip and pay for the trip on Parent Pay.

After half term we will move on to a topic called Heroes & Villains, which is based on music. As part of this topic they will be learning about famous heroes and villains in history and in fiction!

We will be inviting the parents in at the end of each topic to see what the children have been learning; our first express will take place on ***Thursday 12th October at 3.20 in the classroom***.

French

The children start to learn French in key stage 2 and they will have a French lesson every week. We will be working through the Rigolo scheme which is a fun and interactive scheme that helps them to learn the French language.

Contact Books

The children will continue to bring home contact books. These will be signed on a weekly basis in school and we would appreciate you doing the same at home. If you have any messages for the teachers please use the contact book.

Fruit

Please remember that children are not provided with fruit for a snack in key stage 2. If you could ensure that your child brings in some fruit to eat at break time every day it would be much appreciated.

Harvest Festival

We will be celebrating our annual harvest festival on Monday 18th September. Harvest festival is a celebration of the food that is grown on the land. To mark harvest at Knollmead we will be having a special assembly and would like to donate food to a local charity. Therefore, please send your child into school with a small donation, such as tinned food, fruit, vegetables or dried goods such as pasta and rice on ***Thursday 14th September***.

I look forward to a happy and successful year!

Miss Golding