

Emerald Class Newsletter

Spring 2018

We would like to wish you all a Happy New Year, and welcome back to the new school term - we hope you all had a relaxing Christmas break. The pupils are happy to be back at school and have already enjoyed some exciting learning activities!

Curriculum Topics

Our topic for this half term is 'Superheroes' and we have already enjoyed our Superhero day. Thank you for encouraging your children to dress up. We had a fun day, going on a superhero hunt and designing our own superheroes. We have lots more exciting activities planned and will look at real life superheroes - the people who help us - over the coming weeks.

After half term our topic will be 'Paws, Claws and Whispers' where we will be learning about different animals. We will find out what they eat, where they live and the sounds that they make. We will also think about how we look after animals and the ways in which they are different and similar to us. There will be opportunities to see different animals and we will write to you soon about the trips we have planned.

Parent lunch parties

The topic lunch parties we held last half term were a real success - thank you! We hope you enjoyed being together with the children and having the opportunity to catch up with each other. We will continue with these throughout the year and will write to you each half term with the dates. We hope you can continue to come as the children get really excited about being able to spend time with you in class.

Literacy and Maths

We are now delivering most literacy and maths lessons on a one to one basis, so that your children are taught in a way that is appropriate for them. Where possible, we will also teach small group literacy sessions based around a story book. All children will continue to follow a personalised curriculum, based on their individual needs and the outcomes agreed at annual review meetings. Debbie will discuss these with you individually at parent consultation meetings. However, please do not hesitate to let us know if you would like to talk about any aspect of your child's learning or progress before then.

PE

Emerald PE lessons will continue to be on Monday afternoons where we will cover

a range of outdoor sports. As it is now colder please ensure that your son has tracksuit bottoms and a warm jumper for PE.

All children will also continue to attend mainstream PE sessions - Wednesday for year 6 and Thursday for years 2-4.

In addition to this we have added a yoga session to our timetable which will take place on Tuesday mornings. We started this last term and the children really enjoy it! We link these sessions to stories where possible - for example pretending to be a tree or the moon!

Inclusion

All Emerald pupils will continue to join the mainstream children in assembly, at lunch, playtime and on school trips. They will also attend mainstream lessons where we feel that it would be meaningful to them and where they are able to fully engage with the content of the lesson and work collaboratively with their mainstream peers. Debbie will individually discuss this with you if we feel that it would be beneficial.

We aim to include Emerald children in the wider life of the school as much as possible and your views on inclusion are always welcome. Please do not hesitate to contact Debbie if you would like to discuss your child's individual needs.

New team member

We are pleased to welcome Julie Western to the Emerald team. Julie has been a mainstream teaching assistant and is well known to the Emerald pupils. She is joining us every morning to support with mainstream inclusion.

Speech & Language and Occupational Therapy

Sarah Cox will continue to work with Amie Kennedy on providing Speech and Language Therapy sessions for all pupils and will also advise on strategies for the Emerald team to use during the week. Amy McGowan will continue to work with us as our Occupational Therapist and will do so until Laura Moore's return later this term.

We hope the children enjoy the exciting activities we have planned this term and we look forward to sharing these with you at our lunch parties. As always, thank you for your continued support.

Debbie Hall, Sarah Terrey, Matt Head, Nathan Rebbit, Katie Lloyd and Julie Western
Emerald class team