

Crystal Class

Summer Term 2018

Welcome back, after what was hopefully an enjoyable Easter break. Firstly we'd like to thank you for your support over the previous terms. It helped your children to settle easily and we are pleased to report that they have continued our good start to the year. We are now ready to embark on another busy term, continuing with working through the National Curriculum, starting new topics in the foundation subjects and, of course, raring to go with the SAT's .

Homework

We will continue setting homework three times a week - spelling, punctuation and grammar on Wednesday, maths on Monday and topic related work on Friday. We will be continuing to use the homework grids to set homework; please see the homework grid for our new topic attached. This grid will have lots of options that the children can choose to do for their homework. They will need to complete one piece every **2 weeks** - the hand in dates will be given underneath the grid.

Thank you for supporting your children so well with completing their homework. The red mark system will be continuing so please ensure that you sign your child's contact book at the end of every week and help them to remember their equipment and homework e.g. P.E. kit, etc.

The children are expected to read for at least 15 minutes EVERY day (including Saturday and Sunday). The children must record this in their reading records, which are in the contact books. In order for your child to continue to improve in their reading it is important that they frequently read to you and read a wide range of texts including non-fiction.

Homework and athletics clubs will continue to run throughout the week in the hub. Please encourage your children to attend if they struggle to complete their homework at home.

Contact Books

The children will continue to bring home their contact books this term. 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.

Star Reader

Currently, in year 6 the Star Reader system is working very successfully and lots of children have achieved rewards for reading every day. The emphasis on reading remains high across the school and we look forward to continuing to hand out even more star reader certificates. The race to be the first child to receive the Rainbow Award and a reading book as a prize continues!

Computing

This term your children will be using the programming platform 'Scratch' to code data and will be using iPads to create and upload short videos.

P.E.

This term the children will start swimming. Their swimming lesson will take place on a Thursday so please make sure your child has their swimming costume or trunks, a towel, swimming hat and goggles (if necessary) in school on this day. Please note, swimming is a part of our curriculum so it is not optional to take part.

The children will have PE lessons on Wednesday so it is necessary for your child to have a full, named PE kit in school on appropriate days (This includes trainers and a navy blue or black sweatshirt for outdoor PE sessions). Be prepared as the lesson could be indoors or outdoors depending on the topic and the weather.

Over the course of the first half term the children will be learning to swim and learning to develop their hand and eye co-ordination through cricket; as well as, preparing themselves for sports day. After half term the outdoor PE focus will be athletics.

Cornerstones

This term our cornerstones topics are: Tomorrows World and Darwin's Delights. The Tomorrows World topic focuses on the technology of the future, branding and design; whilst our second topic Darwin's Delights has a science focus. This topic takes a detailed look at the life of Darwin, his discovery of new creatures and a look at evolution.

We would also like to invite you to our Express for the end of our first topic to see what the children have been learning. It will take place in the classroom on **Friday 25th May at 3:20pm** and you will have the opportunity to look at the children's books and see the wonderful work they have been working on in Cornerstones!

French

French lesson will continue to be taught every week by a French teacher from Coombe Girls' School. They will be continuing to work through the Rigolo scheme to learn the French Language.

Science

Our Changing World

The children will develop their understanding of the life cycles of plants and of reproduction as a specific stage of those life cycles.

As they explore 'Our Changing World' of plants, children look for evidence of plant reproduction, for example, flowers, seed heads, berries and fruits on plants, throughout the year. They make observations of a wide variety of plants at different stages of their life cycles. They note all of this detail in an Our Changing World diary, on plant maps and also on planting plans. Children explore practically some of the methods of growing plants without seeds and propagation. They design and carry out a planting plan to grow a range of plants using seeds, bulbs, tubers, rhizomes, corms and leaf, stem and root cuttings, ready for a summer term 'produce sale' of crops. They investigate different ideas about how to improve crop yields and quality.

PSHE

In Year 6 the children will be looking at 'Good to be Me' this term, which will focus on children understanding and embracing both their own and others qualities, accepting that we may be different but all offer our gifts to one another. The children will also receive talks about preparing them for secondary school, which will continue into the second summer term.

SATs

We would like to remind you that SAT's will take place the week of the 14th May 2018. The children have been working hard preparing for these and we appreciate your support in the build up to this week and during the week itself. It is vital that the children attend school every day during this week and do not miss any of the tests.

Marchants Hill Residential Trip

The Marchants Hill Residential Trip is from **Monday 25th June - Friday 29th June**. A letter with more information will be sent out nearer the time. Please make sure that you have paid for the trip on ParentPay.

Sports Day

Sports Day will take place on **Friday 22nd June**. If it is wet and we have to cancel we have a reserve Sports Day on Friday 6th July.

Finally, we wish to say a huge thank you to all those parents who continue to support their children across their academic endeavours. This is the children's final term at Knollmead and look forward to finishing with an extremely positive one. Thank you for your ongoing support and we look forward to seeing you all at either our Sports Day, end of term production or both!

Mr van de Wiel, Mrs Trimble (TA) and Mr Head (TA)