

Pearl Class Newsletter

Summer Term 2018

Welcome back to school. We hope you had a lovely Easter holidays and that you are ready for our final term of Year 4. This newsletter will introduce the topics we will be covering this term and let you know about routines and trips for this term.

Equipment

Each day your child needs a water bottle at school. They may bring a pencil case and glue if they wish and if they have earned their pen licence they can bring in a blue fibre tip pen to write with, although pens are provided for them to use. Headphones are also useful for them to wear when using laptops.

Literacy and Maths

We will do some information writing about our bodies later in the term, but first we will be writing a narrative about a group of people climbing Everest. We will then create poetry inspired by Joshua Siegal. We will attend the Barnes Children's Literature Festival on Friday 11th May at which we will see Joshua Siegal perform some of his poems. We will be in contact soon to tell you more about his trip.

Within Maths we will study time, decimals, money and geometry this term. We will also cover area and perimeter and converting different measurements.

Homework

You child will continue to have homework each week. The tasks will alternate between online work and paper homework. In the online homework week, the children will be set Mathematics tasks and a target score in Spellodrome to reach. In the weeks for paper homework they can complete one of the activities from the grid we send home. We will let you know by email each week which homework is due and the children will also write a note in their contact book each week.

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. Please listen to them read at least once a week and record this in the contact books. By doing this you will help them move along our reading Road to Success and receive a prize! Children who do not read every day will be asked to do that reading during their lunch break.

Contact Books

The children will continue to bring home contact books. These will be looked at each Monday in school and we would appreciate you signing them once a week at home. If you have any messages for the teachers you can use the contact book.

Computing

We will complete our PowerPoints about Mountains and present them to the class before moving on to do some programming later in the term. We also hope to use 'Google Classroom' with the children this term.

R.E

We will be looking at 'important people in religion' for the first half term and then we will move on to 'Telling our stories: How people are affected by religion'.

Cornerstones

For the first half term we will be studying the Norman invasion in 1066 and looking into how the Normans built castles around the country to protect themselves. After half term we will be studying the human body and how the skeleton and muscles support it. We will also look into nutrition for animals including humans. As part of our topic on the human body we will go to the **Natural History Museum** to look at skeletons of different animals and to visit the Human Biology Gallery. This trip will take place on Tuesday 19th June and more details will come to you nearer the time.

French

We will complete our work on naming months and dates and saying when our birthdays are before learning how to tell the time in French.

P.E

We will continue to have outdoor PE lessons with Mr Tanner from Coombe Boys' School this term and he will be teaching athletics and rounders. We will also swim every **Wednesday**. Please note, swimming is a part of our curriculum so it is not optional to take part.

For outdoor PE the children will need

- Plimsolls or trainers
- T-shirt (coloured t-shirts are available from PMG schoolwear)
- Shorts
- Jogging bottoms

For swimming your child will need

- swimming costume
- towel
- swimming hat

Science

In a State

Children will learn the characteristic properties of solids, liquids and gases, first through physically exploring typical materials and then by classifying examples, such as powders and very viscous liquids, which are harder to classify. Using first-hand experience and secondary sources they will learn about changes of state and begin to understand freezing and boiling points as identifying characteristics of a material. They will learn the names of some common gases. They will have the opportunity to explore the expansion of liquids and gases when they are heated, using this to make a simple thermometer and explain how it works. They will also learn about the water cycle, modelling it in different ways and further developing their understanding of changes of state.

They will plan and carry out fair tests, learning to identify and control variables and drawing up tables to record their data. This will then be presented as bar or bar line graphs. Children will identify patterns in the data and use these to answer their investigation questions and to make further predictions.

Who am I?

The children will further develop the understanding of keys by using them to identify animals from a range of habitats. They will also construct keys, learning to ask yes/no questions about characteristic differences between the animals. They will learn about pond and seashore animals and common land invertebrates through images and first-hand experience.

Our Changing World

The children will be going outside and classifying plants in the local area. They will learn that different criteria can be used to classify plants depending on the time of year.

When working scientifically children will make careful observations of leaves, bark, buds, tree shape and flowers. They will use these observations to classify the plants and will record this information using keys.

PSHE

In PSHE the topics are 'Relationships' where we will be investigating and discussing the feeling of loss if someone dies or moves away and 'Changes' where we will investigate and discuss how it feels when change happens and what we can do to manage the emotions that changes create in us.

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.

We are really looking forward to our final term with your children and hope to build on the fantastic progress they are making.

Ms Culpin and Miss McRae