



2nd September 2021

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I hope that you have had a wonderful summer break.

I am looking forward to a very successful year ahead, working closely in partnership with you.

We have lots of exciting learning planned for the first half term:

This term our overall theme is 'Democracy and Dictatorship' and our big question is 'What makes a good leader?'.

**Class novel:** *The London Eye Mystery* by Siobhan Dowd

**English:**

We will start off by exploring detective fiction, based around *The London Eye Mystery* by Siobhan Dowd. We will move on to focus on explanation texts, persuasive writing and poems with a structure.

All pupils will continue to focus on the grammar skills needed to become better writers.

We will practise spellings daily and handwriting several times each week.

**Maths:** We will start by consolidating and strengthening our understanding of number and place value before moving on to the four operations and fractions. The children will have weekly arithmetic sessions and regular times table practice.

**Science:** Properties and changes of materials.

**PE:** Swimming, gymnastics, football and Olympic sports.

**RE:** Christianity - How do Christians mark the turning points of the journey of life?

Buddhism - What do we mean by a 'good' life?

**History:** The Magna Carta and its significance, The changing power of monarchs and The influence of Ancient Greece on the modern world.

**Geography:** Why is London such a cool place to live?

**French:** Quel temps fait-il? (weather), Les sports et la santé (sports and health).

**Art:** Design for a purpose - Coats of arms and Architecture - London landmarks.



**Design Technology:** Designing and making Christmas games

**Computing:** Online safety, Micro:bit - the meaning and purpose of programming and Search engines.

**Music:** Livin' on a prayer, Focus on a composer - Benjamin Britten.

### **PE**

PE will take place on Monday afternoons and Thursday mornings. On Monday, Mrs Pollitt and Miss Whinnett will teach Key Stage 2 together. On Thursday, the children will attend swimming lessons at Salt Ayre Leisure Centre and be accompanied by Mrs Cain.

Please ensure that your child has their swimming kit with them every Thursday from week 2 and PE kit should be in school at all times.

### **Outdoor learning**

We will be taking our learning outdoors often so it would be useful for your child to have a pair of wellies that can be kept in school at all times.

### **Snacks**

Children can buy toast at breaktime for 20p a slice. They can also bring in a piece of fruit from home.

### **Homework**

This term, we will be focusing on key skills in maths and English, both in class and for homework. We would be very grateful if you would support your child at home with the following:

***Daily reading*** - All children should read a quality text of an appropriate level that they bring into school each day and take home each night, completing their reading record daily. Children will read books from a structured reading scheme until we decide they are ready to become a 'free reader'. We ask that everyone reads for a minimum of twenty minutes daily. Reading records will be checked daily and if not completed, additional support will be provided at a lunchtime reading club.



**Weekly spellings** - These will be set on Monday and tested each Friday. Spellings for the whole term will be sent home and will also be available on the class page of the website. Please support your child in learning their five weekly spellings.

**Times tables** - These should be practised regularly at home; knowing these is crucial and the expectation of the national curriculum is that all children should know their times tables up to 12 x 12 by the end of Year 4. This means being able to recite times tables i.e. 0 times 5 is 0, 1 times 5 is 5, 2 times 5 is 10 etc. and knowing related division facts i.e. 0 divided by 5 is 0, 5 divided by 5 is 1, 10 divided by 5 is 2 etc.

**Maths** - We will provide each child with a CGP maths booklet for the year. Each week, children will be set a page of questions to complete for homework which will be linked to our in school learning. This will be set on a Tuesday and due for Friday. We will go through the questions as a class on a Friday so booklets need to be in school.

**SPaG** - We will also provide each child with a CGP Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar booklet. Each week, children will be set a page of questions to complete for homework which will be linked to our learning in school. This will be set on a Tuesday and due for Friday. We will go through the questions as a class on a Friday so booklets need to be in school.

If you would like to speak to me about anything at all, please do not hesitate to contact me either by email or in person at the beginning or end of the school day or by phone.

Best wishes,

Miss Whinnett