



## **FORM TEACHER'S TERMLY WELCOME NEWSLETTER**

### **Form II : Summer Term 2018**

Dear Parents

Welcome back to an exciting and very busy Summer Term. I hope you all had a wonderful Easter break.

In our Literacy lessons this first half term, we will be looking at instruction, recount and extended story writing. The children will read and compare stories by Vivian French. They will look at the character development, setting and structure for each story. At the end of this unit they will plan and write an extended story. After half term we will take a light-hearted look at humorous poems and verses. We will discuss meanings of words and phrases that create humour. In the last few weeks of term, our work focuses on non-chronological report writing. The girls will look at the key organisational features of this genre of writing. This final unit of work will finish with the girls writing and giving their own presentations to the rest of the class.

Guided Reading sessions will start in the first full week of term. Each session begins at 8.30am on a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. Please check your daughter's reading record book if you are unsure of her day. Thank you for hearing your child read daily at home and also for supporting her with her weekly spellings.

In Mathematics, we will continue to practise our mental skills daily by recalling bonds, doubles and tables. The girls are quickly and confidently recalling multiplication and division facts for the 2's, 5's and 10's and hopefully by the end of term they will be as confident with their 3's and 4's too. The girls will continue to extend their understanding of numbers to 1000. We will develop our skills in the addition and subtraction of two and three-digit numbers using mental strategies, and informal written methods. Work on division this term will introduce the idea of remainders and, therefore, swift and confident recognition of multiples will enable the girls to quickly solve these problems. Recalling multiplication and division facts is an important skill which will help them to quickly solve multiplication, division and fraction problems. The girls will solve problems using all four rules with money, length and weight. We will be using £ and pence, cm and m, and g and kg. The girls will need to understand the relationship between these standard units of measure and be able to convert from one to another.

In our shape work we will continue our work on right angles and quarter turns. Compass and grid work will link with our Geography topic. The girls will use Venn and Carroll diagrams to sort data. Please continue to support your daughter with telling the time (both analogue and digital), as many girls still find this tricky, and regular practise with this skill will be very helpful.

The girls will continue to have Maths homework every Friday to be handed in during the following week. This should help to reinforce the previous week's learning and should always be positive and fun!

Our Science topic this term focuses on Plants and Animals and builds on the learning in Form I. We will be using our school grounds to think about where plants and animals live. We will compare the different habitats that can be found in our school and think about the different types of animal life that we may find there. We hope to make use of the iPads to digitally record our findings. Our understanding of habitats will lead on to work about food chains, as we begin to think about how living things are connected. We will also look at both plant and animal life cycles and carry out some experiments on seeds.

In Geography, we will be learning lots of new mapping skills in our topic on Investigating Our Local Area. The girls will use maps to identify and locate places and features, and to plan routes. We will think about the importance of different features of a town and where they are located.

After half term, our History topic will take on a holiday theme as we find out about how seaside holidays have changed. We will focus on Victorian seaside holidays and gather information from photographs and written accounts. We will think about how people travelled then, compared to now, and think about the impact of the railways in Victorian times.

In Computing, the girls will program floor robots, Pro bots, to follow a set of complex instructions. They will program them to follow a path, turn lights on when entering dark spaces and stop before hitting obstacles.

In the first half of term, the girls will learn a variety of new songs in their Music lessons in preparation for their summer production. In the second half of the term, they will listen to music relating to different types of trains and will explore pulse, tempo and rhythm. The girls will create their own small-group compositions using graphic scores and word rhythms.

Our RE lessons this term will focus on the different stages of our lives and how different religions celebrate, guide and support us during these important moments with different ceremonies and rituals.

During our French lessons, we will be learning and revising the vocabulary for clothing, colours, classroom equipment and instructions. We will also be revising how to ask how old you are and how to express simple likes and dislikes.

In PSHCE, we will be learning about the value of money and savings, reflecting on the differences and similarities between people and countries around the world, talking about the value of rules and also discussing how we can help to improve the environment. We will be learning about the School Council and how to vote.

In PE we will be playing short tennis and simple rounders' style games. The girls will continue to work on all the athletics skills both in track and field. After half term the girls will swim twice a week in our pool. The focus will be on synchronized swimming and water confidence work.

In Art, we will look at different environments and create artwork linked to them. The girls will investigate the work of a variety of artists who use elements of the natural world for inspiration. We will also explore the seaside using a cross-curricular link with History. As well as creating pictures which provide the opportunity to consider choices of design, pattern and colour, we will build on our design and technology skills. This will enable the girls to think about aspects of traditional holidays at the seaside in Victorian England, such as beach huts and puppet shows. They will be able to produce their own designs through models and compare them to modern day entertainment and personal experiences. We shall also investigate our school environment to see how we can use and

develop what we see around us into colourful and bold artwork. Our sketchbooks will continue to be a focus for our ideas and interests.

I hope that this overview of your daughter's learning this term proves useful, but please do contact me if you have any queries or concerns.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Mandy Buckland