



Welcome to Class 4-Autumn 2015

Dear Parents,

Welcome to class 4! The children have returned to school looking extremely smart in their uniforms and are ready for the new challenges this year will bring. For the year 2 children in this class this is the final year in Key Stage One.

We are hoping that this newsletter will give you a thorough idea of what your child will be doing and learning throughout the term in this class. Other information will continue to be shared through our whole school newsletters. As always if you have any queries do come and ask us in person.

Many thanks,

Mrs Holtby, Mrs Duffie and Mrs Hammill

English

This term, in English we will be reading stories set in familiar settings, such as, *Peace at Last* by Jill Murphy, and traditional stories. The writing genres we will be looking at are stories, labels, lists and signs, repetitive poems and information texts. We will be writing Autumn poems following our Autumn walk to Thornaby Cemetery. We will be learning how to form lower case letters correctly, using entrance and exit strokes, and understanding which letters belong to which handwriting 'families'. When writing we will be focusing on using spaces between words, punctuating a sentence using a capital letter and a full stop, and writing on the line. We will be having a big focus on spelling. The children will learn to build up unknown words using phonic sounds, as well as learning to spell correctly commonly used key words. Spellings will be taken from key words and phonic groups. In our reading sessions we will learn to use initial sounds and picture clues, apply our phonic knowledge to decode new words, as well as reading common sight words, and we learn to 'read on' to help decode words.



Science

We will begin by identifying the basic parts of the human body using songs and labelling. The children will learn about their five senses and why we have them. We will take part in a senses investigation...I wonder who will like the taste of lemon?! We will go on to name a variety of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. The children will then learn that a variety of common animals can be put in to three groups named carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. We will describe and compare the structure of a variety of common animals. The children will observe closely the changes across the seasons, and this term we will go on an Autumn walk to Thornaby Cemetery where they will observe the wonderful and beautiful autumnal changes.

Maths

The children will be learning how to form digits from 0 to 9 correctly. We will spend time each week practising to count to 100, forwards and backwards, recognising odd and even numbers, memorising number bonds to 10 and 20 and counting in multiples of 2, 5 and 10. Please can you support your child in counting in 2s, 5s, and 10s, and learning all of their number bonds to 10 and 20 – a secure knowledge of these will make maths much easier. The main areas we will cover this term are:

- Number and Place Value
- Length and Mass/Weight
- Addition and Subtraction
- 2D/3D Shapes
- Sequencing and Sorting
- Fractions
- Capacity and Volume
- Money
- Time

RE

The focus of this term's R.E work is loving and belonging. We will look at the love of our families and how we all belong to the family of God. The children will discuss their own experiences of the love and care shown in their own family. Our scripture work will help us to understand that God loves and cares for all of us, and takes care of everyone. We will learn that Jesus grew up in a family who loved and cared for him. We will learn about the sacrament of Baptism, which enables us to belong to God's family in a special way. We will visit St. Patrick's church and act out a Baptism. We will also study Judaism where we will look at the stories of Abraham and Moses.

PE

In P.E., the children will be having gymnastic lessons with Mr. Smith. They will learn to copy and explore basic actions with some control and co-ordination. They will begin to choose and link basic actions, and recognise and use space appropriately. The children will watch and discuss their own work and their peers. PE is on a Wednesday and a Friday, so please remember to bring PE Kits in to school on a Monday, and take them home on a Friday. Our PE kit is a white t-shirt, black shorts and black plimsolls. Please can you ensure that your child's name is on all of their uniform and their PE kit, thank you.



Computing

The children will enjoy being treasure hunters and TV chefs in Computing this term. We will be learning how to use programmable toys by inputting a sequence of instructions into the bee bots. The children will learn to write their own algorithms and debug their own programs. They will become familiar with and use the different features of a video camera. The children will experience using a video camera to film the steps of a recipe acted out by their friends...our very own movie directors in the making...cut!!

History

We are really looking forward to learning all about Victorians. In our topic, we will learn about our own personal history and what the past means to us by creating timelines of our own lives. We will be looking at changes within our own living memory by comparing our school, toys, clothes and houses to those in Victorian times. I'm sure the children will be surprised to learn that if they lived in Victorian times they would be sweeping chimneys everyday! We would be extremely grateful if you could support your child by sharing any information or resources that you may have which might aid their studies. We are hoping to visit Beamish Museum where we will become Victorians for the day, more information to follow.

Geography

We will be improving our knowledge of locations in Geography. The children will learn to name and locate the world's 7 continents and 5 oceans using maps, atlases and globes. In our topic 'Where in the World is Barnaby Bear?' we will name, locate and identify characteristics of the four countries and capital cities of the UK and surrounding seas, and look at Australia as a contrasting locality.



Art, Music and D&T

Our Art lessons may focus on a book we are reading in English, our topic work or a particular interest that the children may have. Mrs. Lawson will teach the children music, and this term she will focus on exploring sounds and developing expressive voices and singing skills. They will perform actions and add body percussion. The children will also perform in our Christmas Nativity, there is sure to be one song the children will sing over and over for you at home! In D and T, the children will be looking at moving pictures where they will develop an understanding of simple mechanisms and levers. They will design and make moving Christmas cards...watch this space!



Homework

Children in Year 1 will be given homework on a Tuesday, which is to be returned to school the following Monday. This will include weekly spellings, and either a piece of English or Maths to consolidate what the children have learnt in school that week, all homework will be put in the children's homework books. Listening to stories with your child, and regular support with their reading book is very important. Spending quality time reading a few pages, and discussing the story and asking and answering questions, is better than struggling to read a whole book. We would really appreciate a little comment in their reading records to let us know how they are progressing at home. Thank you for your support.



Important Dates!

- Welcome Mass in Church:W Thursday 28th September
- Class 4's visit to church- Friday 4th November
- Stay and pray- Friday 2nd December

Don't forget to visit our website for more information

<http://www.sbcschools.org.uk/stpatricks/>