



Monkleigh Primary School

Class 3 - Spring Term Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you have all had a brilliant Christmas holiday and found the time to rest, relax and recharge. We have a very busy and exciting term ahead, which I am sure we will all enjoy. Alongside myself, Ms Beasley, Mrs Bennett and Miss Barnes, we have a student teacher, Miss Trythall, joining us who will take on some of the teaching responsibilities with myself.

This term is going to be a very busy term especially for the year 6's who will be completing their SATs after Easter. We will be doing our best to ensure all children do not worry about their SATs, we see them as an opportunity to share all their hard work over the years at Monkleigh. We will continue to work on all topics and areas of the curriculum just like any normal term. There will however be a little more focus on maths, reading, writing, and SPaG so the Year 6 pupils will be going into their SATs as confident as possible as I know they want to do their very best.

In **Maths** this half term, both years will be focussing on fractions, looking at how to add, subtract, multiply and divide them as well as finding common denominators, simplifying fractions and finding fractions of numbers. We will also be spending time looking at decimals and percentages and how they work alongside and with fractions. Time will be spent looking at ratios and algebra and how we can use skills to help us develop our reasoning and arithmetic. We will also be developing our understanding of area, perimeter and volume.

Throughout the term we will be spending time with the pupils developing their arithmetic understanding so they can answer any multiplication, division, subtraction and addition questions with ease. As always, we will be focusing on increasing our reasoning skills to help us answer questions which may not show an answer explicitly.

In **Literacy**, we will continue teaching the class split with Mrs Bennett teaching spelling and guided reading whilst I teach the literacy. Our first few weeks will be spent looking at non-fiction. We will be looking closely at creating non-chronological reports on animals. We will also be finessing our proof-reading and editing skills. By the end of the term, each pupil will be able to independently proof read their writing for grammatical errors, spelling errors, and word choice without prompting by an adult.

In **Science**, we will be focusing on two different topics. For the first half of the term we will be looking at space. In this topic we will be learning about the different planets, moons and space travel. This will be a very interesting topic and open up the night skies for them all. After half term, we will be looking at light. We will be researching different aspects from reflections to shadows and how colour is created.

In **History**, our focus will be on Ancient Egypt. This topic will allow us to focus on how and why the Ancient Egyptians became such a powerful civilisation for 3000 years. We will be learning about how they lived and the structure of society, the different Pharaohs and of course mummification.

In **Geography**, we will be researching rivers. This topic will allow us to recap the water cycle and how this creates rivers. We will look at the different formations formed by rivers and how humans have adapted over the years to use rivers from trade to creating electricity.

In **Art**, we are going to be creating clay masks in the style of the Ancient Egyptians. We will be taking our ideas from our previous learning of the Egyptians in the first half term.

In **DT**, we will be creating a tote bag made out of recycled materials. This topic will focus on sewing techniques, different types of materials. In this topic we will be also be looking at making our products to the specification of others by using questionnaires to help influence our designs.

In **Computing** we are going to look at stop motion animation with the end result meaning we will create our own animation. This topic will also include how to behave sensibly and safely online to ensure all pupils are safe.

In **French**, this term's topic is on family and friends. The pupils will be taught a range of different nursery rhymes and songs in French whilst also learning how to talk about families and home.

RE this term will be focusing on Judaism and looking how the Torah is important to Jewish people. We will hopefully be going to Exeter to see the synagogue. I will let you all know once it has been finalised.

PE will continue to be taught by Mrs Wilson every day except for Fridays. As they will be outside, please bring in a pair of clean dry socks to change into if they get wet. Pupils can wear trainers all day if they wish though they must be black, if they are not pupils will be expected to change into school shoes during break.

PSHE is going to be taught by Mrs Reeves, this term they will be looking at health and wellbeing.

Forest School will continue to be on a Tuesday afternoon, Year 6's will be taking part in Forest school for the 1st half term and the Year 5's will be doing it from half term till the Easter holidays. Please ensure they have the correct clothing for their outdoor lessons. Wellies, waterproof coat and trousers to keep them dry in the wet weather. If children do not bring in their forest school clothes they will be staying in the classroom with the other half of the class and will miss that days forest school.

Pupils will be sent home with homework books which they are expected to do weekly. This will be set on Wednesday and due in on the following Monday. This homework will follow on from an aspect of our learning throughout the week.

As always if you have any questions, queries or concerns please do send me a message on dojo or catch me on the gate.

All the very best

Mr Stevens