



Harvey Road School

Class 2

Spring 2018

Happy New Year!

I hope you've had a restful and enjoyable Christmas holiday. Thank you very much for the kind presents you gave me and Mrs Gray. Here is an outline of what the children will be learning in the spring term. Please don't hesitate to pop in if you have any other questions. I am looking forward to another busy and successful term with Class 2. As Mrs Edmunds has moved into class 1, Mrs Linda Godbold will be covering my PPA time in class 2 teaching Science, music and the humanities on a Wednesday. She is an experienced teacher from Christchurch School in Chorleywood.

The information below is simply to refresh and remind. Routines have not changed since the autumn term.

Box on bench: This is for anything that needs handing in; letters, money, reading books that need changing, homework etc. Please help your child to sort their book bag each morning before they come into class.

Reading – Please continue to hear your child read regularly and discuss the pages they have read. It is very important children can answer questions about what they have read. Children reading longer books should take 2 or more days to complete the book, but it should still be returned to school each day in the book bag. When a book is finished please write 'finished' as well as any other comments you would like to add.

Spellings - The children will receive spelling sentences for dictation each week. The words will be a mixture of key words and phonic patterns taught in class that week. They will be tested on them in their spelling books which will be sent home for you to see so that you can practise any words they were not sure of. Please make sure you return the book ready for the new test.

Homework – Maths or Literacy homework will be set on Tuesday and should be returned by the following week. The work will be to reinforce a concept we have covered in our sessions in class.

P.E.: P.E is on Mondays and Fridays. Please leave the P.E. kit in school and make sure PE shoes fit!

School Library: The children will visit the library once a week on a Thursday. Please remember to send in your child's library book each week.

Blog: Please check our class blog (accessible via the school website under class pages) to see what we have been doing in class.

Our school trip will be to St. Albans Abbey where we will learn about the life of Alban through story telling and drama, find Christian signs and symbols around the Abbey and then make a clay tile connected to the Abbey which we will paint back in school. It will be on Wednesday 23rd January.

Many thanks for your continued support.

*Kind regards,
Miss Tustin*

English

The children will continue learning to speak with clarity and use intonation when reading and reciting texts. They will practice listening to others in class, asking relevant questions and following instructions. Through group discussions and debates, they will learn to listen to each other's views. Drama skills will also be practiced through re-enacting stories or using 'hot seating' in a range of curriculum subjects.

Our texts this term will be by Francesca Simon and Roald Dahl. The children will read stories with a familiar setting with the focus being on comprehension and making inferences about the text they have just read. They will follow this familiar story structure (with a beginning, middle and end) to write about their own and others' experiences. They will use the language of time to structure a sequence of events and attempt to use connectives such as because, as, while or although. We will link our work on 'information texts' to other topics we are studying such as The Great Fire of London. Our poetry focus will be covered as children attempt to write some riddles! Further to this, the children will focus on learning new grammatical terminology (e.g. verb, noun, adjective, adverb, present tense and past tense) adding the appropriate punctuation in their written work (e.g. apostrophes, commas in a list and inverted commas) and will also continue to practice joined handwriting whilst holding their pencil correctly.

Each morning the children will have a phonics session. This term we continue to learn the rules of spelling, such as adding suffixes and prefixes (un, less, ly) or using apostrophes for omissions (it's, don't) and possession (Miss Tustin's pen).

Maths

In number, we will build on the skills and knowledge that we began to cover last term. Children will practise and consolidate strategies and skills such as counting in patterns; 2's, 5's, 10's, 3's & 4's, starting at different numbers and going forwards and backwards. They will then link this to multiplication and division.

They will work with hundreds, tens and units, estimating, rounding and recognizing odd and even numbers, as well as learning to write numbers in figures and words. Calculations will be the focus and include addition, subtraction and the relationship between them. They will learn that addition is the inverse of subtraction and multiplication is the inverse of division.

Real life problems will continue to feature this term and children will be challenged to solve sums and calculations within word problems or puzzles. These problems will include working with money and time.

Within Shape, Space and Measures, they will focus on 2D and 3D shapes, half turns and quarter turns, clockwise and anticlockwise turns. They will practise reading the time to 5 minute intervals using analogue and digital clocks. They will also measure length using metres and centimetres and measure weight using grams and kilograms. They will learn also learn about symmetry.

Science

This term the topic will be Materials and children will learn what materials are used for and why. They will sort materials using their own criteria and have the chance to carry out investigations such as What is the best material for a shopping bag? Children will discuss natural and manufactured materials and find out how things are made e.g. glass. We will explore scientific vocabulary linked to the theme and use it to record observations. Children will test materials for keeping things warm or cool and decide how to make the test fair. They will also learn about people who have developed useful new materials, namely Charles Mackintosh, John Dunlop and John McAdam. Children will plan an investigation to find which material will allow a toy car to travel the furthest and they will consider how they could improve the investigation in future.

Geography/History

Children will be looking at maps, We will start with local maps then progress onto world maps where we will name and recognize the four countries and capital cities of the UK and identify their characteristics. Some work this term will also involve compass directions. They will use geographical vocabulary such as country, continent and ocean. Children will compare the landscape, weather, animals and lifestyles in different countries to see differences to where we live. Children will consider why oceans and rivers matter and learn how places can change e.g. the Great Barrier Reef.

D&T

Our D&T topic is about vehicles. Children will spend time investigating how both toy and real life vehicles work. They will be taught about wheels and axles and then will make their own vehicle. We will be looking at the life of Henry Ford.

Art

Our topic for Art will be collage. We will use the work of Paul Klee and his piece entitled 'Fish' as a starting point. Children will then create their own pieces of work using collage techniques. We will also be looking at textiles.

Music

We will explore vocal sounds, body percussion and start to notate pitch, shape and duration a using simple line graphics. Children will perform a steady beat and simple rhythm using movement and percussion. They will also combine sounds to create a musical effect.

PE

Outdoor PE will be delivered with the children doing some orienteering around the school grounds and playing and creating team games. May I suggest children have trainers in school for outdoor PE as they tend to fit better and cause less accidents!

In Gymnastics we will be exploring balance and strength. The children will use large apparatus and mats to improve their strength and co-ordination. They will link gymnastic sequences together and learn how to control their bodies when creating gymnastic sequences.

ICT

We will be using the laptops each week, researching topics on the internet, playing on-line games to reinforce mathematical concepts and learning about e-safety. We will continue using a programme called Pivot to create our own animations. The children will learn about more features in Word and Power Point.

RE

Children will find out about prayer, worship and reflection and consider why some people pray for help. They will explore the meaning behind some prayers e.g. the Lord's Prayer through images. We will find out about why the Easter story is so important for Christians. Our whole school Thanks for Thinking Day is on 29th January and faith visitors will be coming in to all the classes. (Parents/ grandparents of all faiths are always invited to be involved – do let us know if you are interested!)

PHSE

We will explore relationships (family) and friendships, discussing and thinking about what is a happy and healthy friendship and how to stand up for ourselves and be safe within friendships. This includes work on anti-bullying and how to be a good friend. We will also be having lots of discussions about how to resolve conflict and falling outs with our friends.