

November 2020

Dear Parents/carers,

This newsletter will keep you up to date with the learning topics for this half term leading up to Christmas. The weekly catch up parentmail will also continue for the time being, due to popular demand!

Some practical matters to note:

- P.E. will continue on the same days, Tuesday and Fridays. PE will be outdoors whenever possible so please make sure the kit is weather appropriate (tracky bottoms if it is cold for example).
- Please continue to send the children in with their book bags daily - containing their reading book, their phonic notebook and their home/school diary. This is vital for in-school reading and book change and keeping you up to date.
- The home/school diary is checked every day and is where you can communicate with us. We can reply in the diary or contact you by phone as appropriate. The diary is also where you can note home reading. This is also checked and we are looking for at least three entries a week.
- If there is any change to pick up arrangements it is vital that you let us know. A note in the diary or call to the office is essential.

Here is an overview of our subjects for this half term and what we will be covering with the children:

### Phonics

We are just about to introduce Phase 4 in phonics. This does not involve phonemes (sounds) and the letters that make them, but it introduces different combination of letters and how to blend them together eg crisps. We will continue to revise and practise sounds already learned to make sure they are secure.

### Reading

The Bug Club scheme is working well, children have a book at the level of their phonic learning which is changed each week. We also have lots of e-books to access at home. Please make use of this facility which also includes some quizzes and games to reinforce the learning. If you need a reminder of the log in details, please let us know.

## Literacy

We will be studying the text 'Traction Man' by Mini Grey. This is a lively book that the children can really connect to from their own experience. It encourages imagination and storytelling skills.

## Spellings

Our spellings will continue from the Spelling Shed scheme. We will start to have 6 spellings on a theme to learn each week, as doing 5 has gone so well and scores are good. Thanks for the practise at home. Test will still be on a Friday.

## Numeracy

We are looking at addition and subtraction, modelling with real objects and moving into abstract recording – writing a number sentence.

## History

The children will be doing their history on the development of toys through the ages, which we are sure they will find interesting and ties in well with the theme book, our Science learning and, of course, Christmas on the horizon.

## Science

Our Science topic is materials, identifying and uses of different materials.

## Art and DT

We will be giving the children lots of practise at cutting and gluing, making collage and moving models.

## R.E.

The children will be studying Our Lady and Advent.

## P.E.

Sessions will be on Tuesday and Friday afternoons and will be held outside as much as possible. Please continue to send the children into school dressed for PE on those days.

## Computing

The children will have an opportunity to use our Chrome laptops and will familiarise them with Google Classroom, the platform we will be using to send out distance learning should the need arise. The login for this, using your child's school email is on a sticker in their reading diaries, please let us know if you need another copy.

## Reports

A report in place of Parents' Evening meetings will be coming out to you on November 19 by parentmail. With that email there will be details of an opportunity to book a short follow up telephone call, if necessary.

Mrs Ridall and Ms Mudd