

5th September 2019

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back to school - we hope you have all had a lovely, relaxing summer holiday. The children have come back full of energy and enthusiasm and look very smart in their Castle Park School uniform. As customary, we would like to outline the topics and activities we will be covering this half term so that you can have an involvement in your child's learning - as you can see we have a busy and exciting half term!

Once again, all children in Years 1 and 2 will be taking part in an art project to create a Comic Art Window with Miller Clear Architects, for the Kendal Comic Art Festival in October.

We are always delighted when your child wants to bring in a book or artefact that links to our topics, but politely request that no personal toys are brought into school.

We look forward to working with you in the year ahead.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Clement and Mrs Bond

<p>English</p> 	<p>During our English lessons, we will be focusing on writing simple words and sentences. The children will be encouraged to talk about and verbalise their sentences first, before working in small supported groups to write them remembering capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. In Year 1, we will have daily phonics sessions. The children will revise the letters of the alphabet and continue to build on their digraph and trigraph knowledge e.g. ch, igh, ur. Our phonics sessions focus on practising reading and writing skills in a fun and interactive way. Finally, from week 3, the children will also have weekly, small group guided reading sessions with one of their teachers, with books being sent home to practise.</p> <p>Year 2s will restart weekly spelling and Friday Challenges from 13.09.19 but Y1s won't start these until after half term.</p>
<p>Mathematics</p> 	<p>In Year 1 maths lessons, we will focus largely on numbers to 20 for the first few weeks. We always take a fun, practical and resourced based approach to learning. The children will practise recognising numbers, recognising Numicon plates, counting amounts accurately, working out one more and one less than a given number and counting forwards and backwards from different starting points. As the term progresses, we will extend this to start to develop methods for adding and subtracting e.g. using a numberline. We will also resume our 'Big Maths' journey, by learning and trying to remember the first steps of our 'Learn Its' e.g. remembering doubles or number bonds off by heart e.g. $2+3=5$ $4+4=8$</p>
<p>Science</p> 	<p>In science, this half term, we will be starting our ongoing topic exploring seasonal changes. Each class will be creating a Seasons table and we welcome any objects of interest relating to Autumn. Our main science topic this term is entitled "Ourselves" and "Our Senses". The children will be naming and locating parts of the human body, including those related to the senses. They will also be learning about the importance of exercise, a balanced diet and hygiene for humans. In the week beginning 16th September, the whole school will be having a science focussed week in which the children will be developing the skills needed to carry out an investigation.</p>

<p>ICT and Computing</p> 	<p>In our computing sessions, the children will be using the class ipads to develop their typing and screen manipulation skills. They will be using an app called Popplet which allows children to use both images and text to present information.</p>
<p>History</p> 	<p>In our history unit this half term, pupils will be learning how to order life events chronologically, and think about changes that have happened to them over time. The children will be thinking about their own family tree, and learning about how their childhoods are different from that of their grandparents.</p>
<p>Geography</p> 	<p>Each term we have a whole school focus on the continents, and have welcomed some amazing visitors into school to enrich this learning experience. Towards the end of this half term we will be having a European themed week in which the children will be taking part in activities to learn about the language, food, customs and landscapes of a European country.</p>
<p>Art and Design Technology</p> 	<p>Our artwork, this half term, will be linked to our topics and the children will have the opportunity to use a range of materials such as paint, clay and textiles to create a range of pictures and models. We will be looking at a range of self portraits by famous artists and the children will have a go at drawing their own portraits.</p>
<p>Music</p> 	<p>In our weekly singing session in Key Stage One, the children will be learning songs about starting back at school, autumnal changes and songs that reinforce personal and social aspects of learning. We will be following the Charanga music programme, and our unit is called "Hands, feet and heart". The children will be using their bodies to make sounds, e.g. clapping, whistling and stamping.</p>
<p>PE</p> 	<p>The children have one indoor and one outdoor P.E. session each week. This year the sessions will take place on Monday and Wednesday afternoons. The indoor session will focus on gymnastics including the development of floor skills, travelling and balancing. The outdoor session will focus on passing and receiving an object such as a ball, using hands, feet, bats and hockey sticks.</p>
<p>RE</p> 	<p>This half term, we will be exploring the theme of belonging. The children will think about all the groups they belong to on a personal and global scale, and think about what it means to belong. We will make links with belonging to a church and think about how a sense of belonging makes us feel.</p>
<p>Global Awareness</p> 	<p>Our Global Awareness curriculum will focus on valuing similarities and differences in people from different cultures and learning about lifestyles, traditions and customs that are unfamiliar to us.</p>
<p>PSHE and Citizenship</p> 	<p>Our PSHE sessions will link closely with our RE sessions and the children will be thinking about relationships they have, and respecting the similarities and differences between people. They will be learning that everyone is unique and special. Our school value that we are focussing on this term is that of "Resilience".</p>
<p>Homework Ideas</p> 	<p>Here are some ideas to support your child at home:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily reading (school books or home books) • Writing (stories, diaries, recounts, book reviews) • Cooking (reading instructions, weighing and measuring) • Shopping (using coins and getting change) • Looks at maps and finding out about different countries. • Going for a walk and looking for signs of Autumn.