

31<sup>st</sup> October 2019

Dear Parents / Carers,

We are now well into the Autumn term and the children are all enjoying and responding to the challenges and expectations of this term's curriculum. As always, we have a very busy half term planned and would like to outline the curriculum the children will be studying.

Thank you once again for all your continued support.

Mrs Bond and Mrs Clement

<p>English</p> 	<p>We will begin this half term with a poetry focus in our English lessons. The children will be listening to a range of poems and using these as a stimulus to create their own. We will focus on using adjectives to make our writing more detailed and interesting. We will also be retelling familiar stories, and writing recounts and instructions using first hand experiences. We will continue to support the children to develop a neat, cursive, handwriting style with regular handwriting practice. In phonics, we will be looking at adjacent consonants at the beginning and end of words. We will also continue to revise phase 3 digraphs and trigraphs. Our daily sessions include both reading and writing activities. The children will continue to have a weekly guided reading session with an adult in school, with a particular focus on comprehension skills.</p>
<p>Mathematics</p> 	<p>Our maths lessons will focus on developing confidence using a range of different strategies to support addition and subtraction calculations. The children will practise counting on and back mentally, using a number line and using known number facts. We will also explore part whole models and fact families. We will look at common 2D and 3D shapes, both naming them and discussing their properties. Finally, the children will have daily practise of their 'Learn It' facts, in a range of ways, to enable them to learn them by heart.</p>
<p>Science</p> 	<p>In science this half term, the children will be thinking about how humans have offspring which grow into adults and consider how they have changed so far. The children will find out about the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival (water, food, air) and describe the importance of exercise, eating the right amount of different types of food, and hygiene. We will also be investigating the five senses through a range of practical activities.</p>

<p>IT and Computing</p> 	<p>The focus this half term for our IT sessions will be using the app "Scratch Junior". Scratch Junior is an introductory programming language that enables children to create their own interactive stories and games. Children snap together graphical programming blocks to make characters move, jump, dance and sing.</p>
<p>History</p> 	<p>This half term, we will be learning about Remembrance Sunday, and appreciating why people buy and wear poppies at this time of year. Linking with our science topic on the senses, we will also be learning about the life of Louis Braille and the impact he had on helping people with visual impairments read using a system of raised dots.</p>
<p>Art and Design Technology</p> 	<p>Our art sessions will focus on the subject of portraits and will be incorporating a range of different skills such as colour mixing, claywork, painting and drawing. We will also look at portraits by famous artists. Additionally within our technology sessions, the children will be designing and making their own healthy food plate. This links with our science unit focussing on the importance of a balanced diet.</p>
<p>Music</p> 	<p>The children will continue to use percussion instruments such as the glockenspiel to follow a beat and identify key notes at the beginning of each bar. The children will also be learning and performing the songs which form part of our Christmas Nativity production.</p>
<p>PE</p> 	<p>The children have one indoor and one outdoor P.E. session a week. The indoor session will focus on gymnastics. The outdoor session will focus on travelling, 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 thinking about how Christians celebrate Christmas. We will learn about the Christmas Story and the children will take part in our annual EY/KS1 Nativity production. This year our performance is simply entitled "The Nativity".</p>
<p>Global Awareness</p> 	<p>Our Global Awareness curriculum will focus on the issue of fairness. We will be thinking about the Shoebox Appeal and how we can help people less fortunate than ourselves. We will be encouraging the children to empathise with others and discuss moral issues using a simple story as a starting point. Our whole school value this half term is "Being Resourceful".</p>
<p>Homework Ideas</p> 	<p>Here are some ideas to support your child at home in addition to the weekly spellings and Friday Challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daily reading (school books or home books are fine)</li> <li>• Writing (stories, diaries, recounts, book reviews)</li> <li>• Cooking (reading instructions, weighing and measuring)</li> <li>• Shopping (using coins and getting change)</li> <li>• Telling the time</li> <li>• Making a giftbox to contribute to the Shoebox Appeal.</li> </ul>