



9<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

We hope you have all had a super Christmas holiday and are thoroughly rested and refreshed. One third of the school year has gone already! We are really pleased with progress the children have made so far and are looking forward to them starting the New Year with a really positive attitude, ready to move on even further. There is lots of hard work ahead and we hope we can rely on your support to guide your children through it all. In particular, we would like to see a continued effort with reading at home. It really does have a huge impact upon their learning if they are reading regularly and frequently at home. It doesn't have to be huge amounts each time; it's the consistency and developing the reading habit that will have the most benefit. We will continue to check reading records more this term, and this is a good way for us to communicate about what and how well the children are reading.

An exciting part of the year 3 and 4 curriculum is going swimming at the Leisure Centre. The first swimming lesson will be Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January. Swimming will then continue every Tuesday until Easter. You should have already received a separate letter explaining what your child/ren will need to bring for these sessions. Swimming forms part of the PE curriculum but there will also be another PE lesson each week. All three classes will have their PE lesson on a Thursday. However, pupils should have a full indoor and outdoor PE kit in school all week, just in case the timetable is adjusted due to poor weather. Please see the school website for further details of suitable PE kit.

Now we are in the spring term, we would like to develop your child's independence even more. One way in which we do this, is by asking you to encourage your child to come in to the cloakroom and classroom on their own each morning. However, should you need to speak to a member of staff, please do come in and pass on a message or make an appointment if you require a longer discussion.

Below are the topics that we are going to be studying this half term with some ideas for activities you can do at home to support your child's learning.


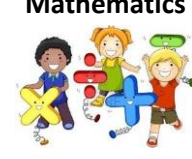






*Leanne Shaw, Adam Tennant, Helen Thwaites and Sam Brooks*

LKS2 class teachers

**Key Dates:**

- 14<sup>th</sup> January - Swimming starts
- 15<sup>th</sup> January - LKS2 to watch a production of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory at QKS
- 22<sup>nd</sup> January - Miss Shaw's class assembly at 2.40pm
- 30<sup>th</sup> January - FOCP KS2 film night
- 29<sup>th</sup> January - Mr Tennant's class assembly at 2.40pm
- 5<sup>th</sup> February - Miss Thwaites/Mrs Brooks' class assembly at 2.40pm
- Wk. beginning 10<sup>th</sup> February - The Americas Theme Week
- 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> February - LKS2 RE visit to Carlisle Cathedral and Mosque
- 15<sup>th</sup> February – Finish at 3.15pm for half term break



Curriculum area.	Topics, ideas and skills for development this half term.	Homework ideas linked to the curriculum areas.
<b>English</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Myths and Legends</li> <li>• Poetry</li> </ul>	Read and discuss some English myths and legends. Watch out for films on TV which are based on myths. Read some poetry with your child.
<b>Mathematics</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Times tables</li> <li>• Addition and Subtraction</li> <li>• Solving problems</li> <li>• Measuring distances</li> </ul>	Learn 2, 5 & 10 times tables to a level where they are known without having to work them out. Practice adding and subtracting 3 and 4-digit numbers, using the formal written method. Continue to use Times Table Rock Stars.
<b>Science</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Animals</li> </ul> Using keys to identify and classify creatures using their main characteristics.	Choose an animal of your choice and create a fact file to share with the class.
<b>Geography</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South America</li> <li>• Rainforests</li> </ul>	Visit <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/clips/zb2jmp3">http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/clips/zb2jmp3</a> and watch a short video all about plants and animals in the rainforest. Look on a map of the world and see which countries we might study during our South America Themed week.
<b>Art and Design</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drawing and sketching</li> </ul>	We will be looking at using a range of drawing equipment in class. Practise drawing objects around the house.
<b>PE</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Swimming</li> <li>• Fitness and Agility</li> </ul>	Enjoy a swimming session together.
<b>Music</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create and perform a song.</li> </ul>	Listen to a favourite song that you could perform to the class.
<b>RE</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How and why do Muslims show commitment to God?</li> </ul>	What does commitment mean? Make a list of the things <u>you</u> are committed to.