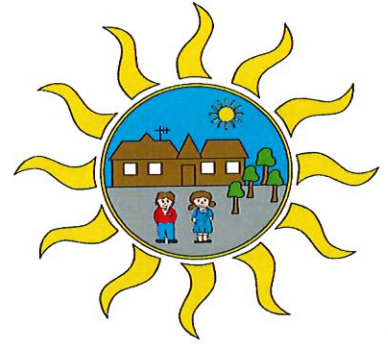


STEDHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher
Mrs Sally Dreckmann

January 2019

Dear Parents,

And, before you know it, we are back! Welcome back to another term! I hope everyone has had a lovely Christmas and we are all ready to face the challenges that the Spring term brings us. We have so much stuff planned this term and we really hope that the children will not only get lots of good learning from their lessons but will also, possibly have a little bit of fun along the way!

This term, our topic is Potions and we have loads of exciting ideas to get through- some of which I'm sure you have heard about already! Seeing as they're doing the same topic as us, we thought it a good idea to work closely with Badgers class this term: this will mean not only working together in the foundation subjects but also in our literacy lessons, to give each child the best support to meet their individual needs. This will mean some mixing and matching between the classes and is something that we are really excited about piloting this year.

Maths

As much we try and ignore it, when the Spring term rolls around, we can't help but see the dreaded SATs looming on the horizon. But, never fear, we have much learning to get through first! This term the children will be finishing their unit on pie charts; moving onto looking at understanding fractions, decimals and percentages (which is always a big part of the SATs papers, but also a very useful life-skill!); shape; ratio; and algebra. We hope to include a lot more math investigations as well this term to get the children really improving their problem solving and reasoning capabilities.

Don't forget that children can access Time Tables Rockstars on their computers at home (their login codes are in their link books) and this would be hugely beneficial for them to practice a couple of times a week.



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Responsibility Confidence Motivation Creativity Independence

Literacy

As mentioned earlier, we will be mixing up the classes a little bit to give children the best opportunity to fulfil their individual potential. Fitting in with our topic of potions, we will begin by looking at a Literacy Shed video called The Alchemist's Letter. We've had some really great success with the literacy shed videos before and the children really enjoyed the last unit we did on the D-Day landings in Normandy- we are really hoping that this topic grabs their attention as much. After that, we will be looking at Harry Potter (of course!) and several other short stories with a magical/fantasy setting, such as How to train your Dragon and stories about King Arthur.

Spellings will continue to be sent home every Monday and you should find them glued in the link book with the words that need extra practice highlighted. If these could be practiced every week, that would be super! We also continue to do guided reading every day in class, but any extra reading that is done outside of school would of course be beneficial. Again, just another quick reminder for those parents that have not yet taken a photograph of their child reading for our reading display it would be really great if we could get them in school so we can stick them up on our display.

Art

I'm very excited about art this term as we will be looking at optical illusions. This again, fitting in with our general magical/fantasy topic should be a great opportunity for even the most reluctant artists to enjoy themselves. We hope to use a variety of different techniques and mediums to create our own illusions. Again, this will be taught with Badgers class so we can really make the best use of the great opportunity we have in a smaller school like Stedham to give children a really personalised learning experience.

PE

While half the class is being taught Art by myself, the other half will be being taught PE by Mrs Hines. The other PE lesson, on a Thursday, will be taught, as usual by Lawrence from Aspire. Please make sure that PE kits are in school every day of the week as we sometimes do extra PE sessions not on our 'normal' days.

Science

Fitting in with our topic (if you haven't noticed already, we try and do a lot of topic based cross-curricular work at Stedham!) of potions, we will be looking at changes in state in science this term. This unit of work lends itself beautiful to a lot of fun, hands on experiments so hopefully will be a lot of fun for the children.

As we approach the end of the term, there will more and more time dedicated to a bit of SATs practice, which, now we have a lovely new TA in Foxes class, will mean that each child will get their own personalised learning plan in the run up to May.

Talking of SATs (not that I really want to!) there will be a meeting to run through how the SATs week is structured and a chance for any questions from parents or children- keep your eyes on ClassDojo for further details.

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History

In history, we will be looking at significant scientists and inventors that have had an impact on our lives even today- these will include Stephen Hawking, Alexander Fleming and Mary Leakey to name a few. Again, this will hopefully tie in with our potions topic as we look at how these people have used medicine, chemistry and other areas of science to improve our lives or the knowledge we have of the world around us.

Computing

Finally we hope to do some work on keeping safe online in this subject, this is a really important part of the computing curriculum and we feel that in today's technology focussed world, these lesson about how to have fun and stay safe while playing Roblox or Minecraft or whatever the latest craze may be, could possibly be the most important lessons we teach our children all year.

Class Assembly dates: None

Final note, I think most parents have already signed up, but if there are any parents who have not yet signed up to ClassDojo, please do come and speak to me to get another login code- it's the main way that we communicate what's going on in Foxes classroom so it's a good place check dates and any out of the ordinary events that may be happening.

I think that's all from me, if anyone has any questions or concerns my door is always open or you can catch me on the playground at the end of school.

Thank you!

Mr Noble



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