

STEDHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher
Mrs Sally Dreckmann

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Dear Parents,

Well, how this year has flown by! The summer term already and for the year sixes, it means the dreaded SATs are almost upon us! But, never fear, we have plenty of fun, exciting and interesting lessons and activities to counterbalance the test week so be sure to ask your children what they have been doing in class- we will try a bit harder to put more pictures of on ClassDojo this term!

For the majority of this term, Mrs Panic will be teaching Foxes class as she finishes off her yearlong training to become a teacher! I will still be around and sometimes in class so if you do have any questions, queries or worries this term there are now two members of staff to talk to! This term's topic is All Creatures Great and Small and, as you can probably guess is based around animals. We will try and cover a lot of science this term as this topic lends itself to a large section of the science curriculum- infusing life-cycles, habitats and classification.

Maths and English lessons

Children will be taught in ability groups for most of their Maths and English lessons. This is to enable us to best meet the requirements of the individual. Where possible, some topics within these lessons may be linked to our topic. In Maths, we are looking at ratio, shape, statistics and measurements before finishing the term with lots of investigative lessons, often based around real life scenarios, just to give the children a chance to apply what they have been taught (and hopefully retained!) over the year.

In literacy, as usual, we will be centring our writing opportunities around our topic. We will be writing our own stories, diaries, poems and recounts all focussed on or written from the perspective of an animal. Mrs Panic is also very keen to do some factual writing about habitat loss and pollution in the sea so we will look forward to seeing what brilliant writing the children can produce this term! We will of course be continuing with our spelling punctuation and grammar in literacy as well, and I would appreciate if you would continue to help your child learn their weekly spellings.

Topic

Science, as we said earlier, will be very much focussed on habitats, life-cycles and classification. We will look at how animals and plants are classified and how we came to use the current system to classification. We will also be looking at life-cycles which will naturally lead into Year 6's SRE lessons towards the end of the year (probably around July time, but we will let you know more details closer to the date.)



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PE

It's that time of year again when we start swimming! So, every Friday, please make sure that the children have their kits and, for long hair (boys and girls!) a hair tie or swimming hat will be required before they are allowed in the pool. Our other PE lesson is, as usual, taught by Aspire on a Thursday- again PE kits should be in school every day, especially towards the end of term where we might go out and play some games on the field as special treats.

Geography

Geography this term is looking at rivers. Children will learn about the vocabulary relating to rivers; some names of rivers in the UK and further afield; and how rivers can shape the landscape.

French and PSHCE

French and PSHCE will be taught by Mrs Dreckmann

Music and RE

Music and RE will again be taught by Mr Cella on a Thursday afternoon

Computing

We are very pleased that we have three new computers in Foxes class to use this term and these will be used as we carry on looking at computer safety. This is a vital part of the curriculum and could be one of the most important parts of the term, in terms of real life application. The children will also have an opportunity to work on a longer project relating to computers of their own choosing.

PSHCE

Focus on the SEAL unit 'New Beginnings' which looks at developing self-esteem, identifying skills and strengths how to deal with disappointment and conflict and how the children learn best.

DT

In DT this term, we hope to plan, design, create and evaluate our own bug hotels for some insects to live in. This can then be either taken home or used in school near our new gardening area. We will like to make this subject as independent as possible and consequently the children will get a chance to work with and perfect their wood-working skills with minimal assistance from the staff members in Foxes.

As usual, if you could read with your child as often as possible- we are trying to encourage the children to write into their own planners if they do any reading so if this could be encouraged at home as well that would be super! We will continue to send home spellings (sent home on a Tuesday and tested the following Monday) and times tables (sent out Fridays and tested the following Friday)

For the year six SATs, we would just ask for early nights during the SATs week- we do our best to take the pressure off the children in school, let me do the worrying! That said, if you do want to do any brief revision with your child in the week or fortnight beforehand, then that would be more than welcome- we want each individual child to do their very best!

If think that's just about it really!

Welcome to the last stretch!

Mr Noble and Mrs Panic