

STEDHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher
Mr Malcolm Meaby

13th September 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to another term! I hope everyone has had a lovely Summer break and we are all ready to bring on the challenges that the Autumn term presents to us. We have so much planned for this term and we really hope that the children will not only get lots of good learning from their lessons but will also, just possibly have a little bit of fun along the way!

This term, our topic is Head, Heart and Soul and we have lots 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 Foxes class: this will mean not only working together in the foundation subjects but also in our literacy and guided reading lessons in order 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 continuing this year- we thought it worked really well last year so hope to encourage more of the same for the Autumn term and then the foreseeable future.

Maths

Maths will carry on as normal this term: across the first half of the term in maths, we shall be covering place value; addition and subtraction; multiplication and division; and becoming more fluent with their mental arithmetic. Children will have times tables to learn each week and an informal test will be given, to check their times tables knowledge, every week. There will also be time (if the weather holds out!) for the children to some outside learning in maths, something that we really enjoyed doing last year and something we felt the children really gained from.

Don't forget that children can access Time Tables Rockstars on their computers at home (their login codes are in their reading record books) and this would be hugely beneficial for them to practice a couple of times a week. As I'm sure you're aware, the Year 4s will have a standardised assessment to test their times tables knowledge later on in the year, so it's absolutely vital they practice their times tables at home to become more fluent with this.

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 Head, Heart and Soul, we will be looking at some emotive topics in our literacy- encouraging the children to feel empathetic towards the characters in the stories we are going to look at. We will also be looking at some non-fiction genres and poetry units in order that the children are exposed to a wide variety of different texts.



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Spellings will continue to be sent home every Monday. They will be glued in the reading records with the words, that need extra practice, highlighted. If these could be practiced at home that would be super! We also read every day in class and would expect that each child reads regularly at home too.

PE

We are super excited this year to start a new scheme called 'Real PE'. This is a brand new scheme that we are running here at Stedham which involves making PE fun, personally competitive and hopefully something the children will remember and talk about after each session. The other PE lesson will be taught each Thursday by Aspire coaches. Please, 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

This term we will be looking at animals and their diets. As you're probably aware we are really fortunate to have some rather rare bats living in the roof at Stedham and this is going to be the perfect hook to our science lessons. We already have done some super animal drawings which you can see on our display as you come in Badgers class and we hope the children will be going home with loads of great facts and buzzing with excitement as they learn about the world around them!

Topic

We have lots of exciting topic work to undertake with the children- mindfulness painting, sketching, yoga and, brand new for this year, we are introducing TrickBox, which is a program to help the children understand their emotions and how to deal with certain situations that they might come across as they progress through primary school. We are really excited about this brand new scheme and are sure it's going to be something that the children really get involved in.

For our more 'conventional' topic and foundation subject work, History will be focussed on the Romans and their impact on Britain; French and Computing will be taught by Mrs Hines and myself respectively as we will be mixing up KS2 again for these subjects and finally PSHCE and RE will be taught by Ms Strachen on a Thursday afternoon.

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.

As you can see an exciting and busy term ahead, with lots of thrilling new things to enjoy!

Please can you listen to your child read as much as possible and practice their spellings and times tables. If you ever have any concerns, please do pop in and talk to me.

Thank you!

Mr. N

Mr Noble

