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Together we care, inspire
and achieve excellence

Wednesday 21st April 2021

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to you and your children! As I write this I reflect back on last term and am filled with immense pride at how well the children coped with our remote learning experience. I am however really looking forward to a term of increased normality and a term filled with lots of learning and fun.

We welcome Violet to Mozart class who has already settled in well and is very much part of the class. The summer term is always a busy term but I think we will all embrace this with everything we have and am sure the children will maximize every opportunity offered.

Below you will find an outline of the teaching and learning that will be taking place in Mozart class this term.

English: Non Fiction - Non-chronological reports: This will initially be linked to our computing work, where the children will be researching Italy and producing a final report on a particular aspect of Italy, once we have explored in our English sessions what non-chronological reports are. We will also be writing explanations and recounts, linked to our geography learning. Discussions will also be investigated and explored, again linked to our geography and science work.

Narrative: Adventure and mystery stories - which I am sure will be very much enjoyed. The focus will be on the cohesion of their writing and using paragraphs to help structure their ideas

Play scripts and being aware of the features and how to follow a script and stage directions.

Poetry: We will be studying some examples of free verse using the work of Michael Rosen and Kit Wright to inspire us. We will also be looking at a range of calligrams and shape poems before creating our own.

Maths: This term we will be completing our work on fractions: adding and subtracting fractions before problem solving with both unit and non-unit fractions. We will then move onto the formal written method for multiplication and division before reviewing the four rules of operation and being introduced to the concept of decimals.



Topic Work: Our topic this term is 'SURVIVAL!' and incorporates a lot of our science and geography learning. The children will be learning about the basic needs of survival, adaptation and how different animals and plants can survive in different environments. They will be learning about the weather and climate of different areas before exploring hot and cold parts of the world, developing their skills of map reading, looking at patterns and being able to explain and give descriptions of their observations.

Science: This term our focus will be on plants, food chains and the basic needs for survival. We will also investigate electricity and learn all about electrical circuits in order to make a working light house!

We will continue to find out about seasonal changes, linked to our work on trees. The children will learn to identify both deciduous and evergreen trees and will follow the life of a tree during the year to see what happens to it at different points in the year. To enhance our learning, a trip to the Botanical Gardens in Cambridge has been organized for the start of the second half term - more details will follow.

Design and Technology/Art:

We will be completing the work inspired by the Pop Artist Andy Warhol, paying greater attention to his work on Campbell's Tomato Soup. Children will explore the use of line and colour to produce their own soup can art work (linked to their DT work from last term)

They will also be investigating how paper can be changed and altered before creating collages. Our topic work on hot and cold places will inspire a lot of our art work and they will investigate the technique used in pointillism linked to the desert habitat.

Our unit in DT will be linkages and levers where we will be exploring these simple mechanisms before designing and making a moving animal, linked to our topic work.

Computing:

The initial focus will be on Data and the use of spread sheets - this will be linked to a mini project all about Italy - building up to using a spread sheet to calculate the quantities needed to make pizza! A quick recap on the internet will take place before we focus on exploring different ways of using an iPad.

RE:

We will begin the term exploring the answers to some difficult questions, including 'What happens when we die?' I will be using two picture books to help us consider such a sensitive and challenging concept - 'Heaven' and 'Badger's Parting Gifts'.

We will then move onto finding out about prayer and why people take part in prayer before looking at two particular places of worship - the mosque and the church and understanding the differences and similarities between these two sacred buildings.

To complete our learning for the term, we will be exploring the Jewish place of worship - the synagogue - to help us be more familiar with its key features.

PE:

Games: Hopefully we will be able to be outside for all our PE sessions this term (weather permitting!) Matt, will continue to teach Mozart class on a Wednesday and I will teach them on a Friday. The focus will be on tennis, cricket, rounders and athletics.

PE kits should be in school on a Wednesday and a Friday.

PSHE: Our focus for the term will be 'Living in the Wider World'.

Visits to the school library will continue to be every fortnight and Mozart's library day will be a Tuesday. Your child will have the opportunity to explore and become familiar with the school's library by carrying out relevant activities. They will also be able to select a book to take home but must remember to bring it back two weeks later so it can be changed.

Reading is an important part of your child's home learning and your child should be reading every day.

Your child will receive a daily phonics/spellings session. There will be weekly spellings to learn and these will be sent home once a week on a Monday to be tested the following Monday.

I will be setting this term's home learning tasks on Google Classroom this term. This means the children will submit their work on here as well - either as a photograph (if it is art related) or as written work. A gentle reminder that Year 3 children are expected to complete **one piece of home learning per half term** but may choose to complete more. It is a wonderful opportunity for the children's learning to be enhanced in a way that inspires and motivates them.

Mathletics will be set every Wednesday and the children will have a week to complete it. A sticker will be put in your child's Home School Diary to inform you of the tasks set. Please ensure you sign your child's diary once the Mathletics home learning has been completed and feel free to write any comments as appropriate.

Times tables will continue to take place on a Wednesday. Before the Easter holidays the children revised the 2, 5, 10, 3 and 6 times tables. I am hoping we will be able to move on to learn and become secure with the 4, 8 and 9 times tables this term. It is really important that children revisit the times tables they have passed to ensure they maintain this fluency. Each week your child will receive a progress score so they can monitor their success.

It is important that your child has a water bottle in school - to be taken home at the end of the day and refilled. They will also require a box of tissues and hand sanitizer.

There is an awful lot of information to digest in this letter so if anything is unclear and you need clarification, or you need to talk with me at all, please don't hesitate to see me after school or if longer is needed, please do make an appointment via the school office.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs N Blakeman Class Teacher