



Kirtlington C E School
Heyford Road
Kirtlington
Oxon OX5 3HL

Telephone (01869) 350210

Fax (01869) 351961

E-mail: office.3500@kirtlington.oxon.sch.uk

Website: www.kirtlington.oxon.sch.uk.

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you had a lovely summer break and are all looking forward to a new and exciting year. This term we have started the year with an RE project and, in Holly class, we have been studying 'Creation and Science: conflicting or complementary?' We looked at different versions of *Genesis*, considered its text type and purpose, and explored why many Christians find that science and faith go together. The children's work is displayed in the hall.

Values

This term the school value we are focusing on is aspiration and the related Christian value is thankfulness. Please remember our school motto - *Aspire and Achieve Altogether*.

Growth Mind Set

This term we are introducing and working on improving children's growth mind set. Through this we hope to improve the children's learning by fostering a positive attitude to learning.

Curriculum

Our topic is 'Gallery Rebels'. Can you change the world with a paintbrush, a thought or an idea? We will be mainly studying 19th and 20th Century art and will visit the Ashmolean Museum (more information to follow) in early October. The children hope to invite you to their art gallery later in term 2 so you may enjoy their artwork and hear about what they have learnt.

English

The children have a taught spelling lesson each morning and they may have homework set from the spelling rules and patterns we have studied. This term, English will include Expressionist poetry, Surrealist narrative, biographical writing, research and note taking, information texts as well as fictional writing. Each week we will have a different grammar



and punctuation focus and again, the children may have homework to consolidate an area of learning. Reading comprehension is taught weekly and I will send texts and suggested questions for you to share with your children throughout the year.

Maths

Maths is taught daily during the morning. It will follow the appropriate curriculum focusing on: Number and Place Value, Addition, Subtraction, Division and Multiplication, Fractions, Ratio and Proportion, Measurement and Geometry - shape. We will also have a daily, ten minute, mental fluency focus, called 'On the Boil'.

Homework

Homework will be available on the school website every Friday. Please let me know if you require a paper copy. At the moment the website is down, whilst it is being revamped, so we will send out paper copies until it is up and running again. We ask that completed homework be handed in each Wednesday so that it can be marked and time can be found towards the end of the week for sharing of tasks when appropriate. Homework books will be returned home on a Friday.

Weekly Routines

PE:

This term, Holly class have swimming lessons on a Wednesday morning (final session 18th October) and PE on a Wednesday afternoon (invasion games and in particular, netball). Please ensure your child has a full indoor and outdoor PE kit in school at all times.

Morning/Evening Routine:

In the morning the school gates will be open at 8.35am and the children will come straight into class, via Beech Class entrance where they now have a cloakroom area. There will be an early morning activity for the children to do in class, while they are waiting for the rest of the class and during the register. At the end of the day the children will be let out into the playground via Beech Class so that parents can pick them up by the pond area.

If you have any change to your child's routine at the end of the day please contact the office and they will pass a message onto us.

Making Contact

Should you need to contact us about any matters arising, please contact the school office and they will make sure that mail is re-directed: office.3500@kirtlington.oxon.sch.

Please be aware that any messages sent may not be seen until later in the school day or after school as we are often busy with classroom duties and teaching earlier in the day. In



all cases we will endeavour to reply to you within 3 working days, within school hours. Obviously if the matter is more urgent, for example about attendance or changes to the routine of collecting your child then you should contact the school office or speak to one of us at the start of the day.

Reminders

- Packed lunches - please can we remind you that the school requests that packed lunches do not contain nuts - as we do have children in school who have life-threatening allergic reactions to them. We also ask that grapes and cherry tomatoes included in lunch boxes are cut in half to help prevent choking.
- Water Bottles - please make sure children have a water bottle with them very day (separate from any drink in their lunch box) as this allows them to access water as and when they require it. Water only in these bottles please (not squash, juice or flavoured water). Also, please ensure that water bottles have a spout (ideally an 'anyway up' spout) and do not need the tops to be unscrewed and removed to drink. This will help us to avoid spillages.
- Absence and sickness - please let the office know if your child is not attending because they are ill. Also please note that Health Protection Agency guidance states that children should not return to school for 48 hours after the last episode of either sickness or diarrhoea.
- Hair - please can you ensure that long hair is tied back. This helps ensure children's safety when using climbing equipment etc. and also curbs the spread of head lice.
- Wellingtons/Outdoor Shoes - make sure that your child is prepared for the outdoor play by providing wellies or outdoor shoes/trainers and a warm, waterproof coat particularly now as Autumn and Winter approaches. Wellies can be left at school so that they are available every day for your child to use. These should be clearly named.

If anyone has any unwanted board games or activities appropriate for Year 6 which they care to donate for Wet Play then I would be most grateful.

With, very many thanks, and looking forward to working with you all during the year.

Miss Jenkins



Headteacher: Louise Williams



Chair of Governors: Sara Carey



School Business Manager: Alie Haynes