



Kirtlington
C.E. School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you enjoyed a fun, relaxing and safe break over the summer holidays. It has been lovely to see the children return to school so happy and excited to be back and we are looking forward to an exciting new school year.

Well-being

“What colour are you, today?” is the question we will keep asking, as we continue to develop our understanding and skills using the zones of regulation.

We will continue to support the children’s mental health using the new Discovery programme of study – looking closely at being healthy in both body and mind. This Autumn term, the children will concentrate on healthy and happy friendships. Year 2s will learn about what makes a healthy relationship and Year 3s will learn about being a good friend.

Behaviour

To support the children’s behaviour and well-being, we are continuing to use ‘Restorative Practice’ an approach which gives the children more opportunity to explain and understand their actions and which teaches them how to address and resolve situations and learn from them.

Curriculum

This term our topic is ‘Movers and Shakers’. This is predominantly a history topic where we will learn about significant individuals and what makes a person a historically significant individual.

English

Reading:

To support the children’s reading skills, there will continue to be an emphasis on ‘Reciprocal Reading’.

All children have been given a reading book and a new reading diary. Please look through the diary to find guidance on how to question and engage with your child during home reading.

You can write a comment or not – sometimes you may want to record some feedback on how your child’s reading was or whether they shared an insight during/after reading.

When you look through the reading records, you will see that your child can review their favourite books and keep a running list of all the amazing reading they have done.

Please keep reading with your child at home, a short session of 10 to 15 minutes each day does make a difference to their confidence, fluency and understanding. *Please remember that we do not have the time to do one to one reading with the children every day in school, so it is vital for them to have this one-to-one reading time with an adult at home.*



Headteacher: Joy Baker



Chair of Governors: Kevin Allison



Administrator: Nicola Allison



Please could the children keep the diary and reading book in their book bag, when they are not reading it to you, so that it is available in school for us to listen to them read too and so they can exchange it for a new reading book when they are ready.

Writing:

All the children will have daily spelling/phonic lessons using our new Spelling Shed scheme of work. Each week a selection of fun interactive spelling activities will be available for the children to do at home to support the spelling pattern/words the children are doing that week. This should help make learning spellings easy and fun. Please support your child in doing these exciting spelling activities.

This term in writing, we are starting with biography writing while we look at historically significant individuals. Then, we will be learning to write non-chronological reports and adventure stories.

Maths

Maths is taught daily following the White Rose Maths programme of study. This term, Year 2 will be working on Place Value, Addition & Subtraction and Shape.

Year 3 will be working on Place Value, Addition & Subtraction and Multiplication & Division.

Year 3 children will also continue to use Times Tables Rockstars this term, which is a fun and challenging programme designed to help pupils master their times tables. Year 3s need to learn the three times table, the four times table and the eight times table. When we start learning multiplication and division in the Spring term, Year 2s will also use Times Tables Rockstars. By the end of the year, they need to learn the two times table, the ten times table and the five times table. Please help them with their times tables and counting forwards and backwards first in ones, then in tens, fives and twos.

Please could you help your child to learn to tell the time at home. Year 2s need to learn O'clock, half past, quarter to and quarter past. Year 3s need to learn to tell the time to five-minute intervals. We encourage the wearing of analogue watches not digital.

Active Learning

We will supplement our English and Maths lessons with 'Active Learning'. This is a programme of study that gets the children outside to learn practically and in a fun manner.

The Year 2 children will be taking part in Forest School after the October half term therefore they will need to have the appropriate outdoor clothing brought in to school every Friday after half term. A reminder will go out to parents nearer the time.

RE

We are starting the term learning about Hinduism with the Big Question 'Is a Hindu child free to choose how they live?' We will learn about the main Hindu beliefs and daily duties and there will be a Hindu workshop in school on Tuesday 11 October. Then we will move on to Christianity with the Big Question, 'What is the Trinity?' as we learn more about and celebrate Christmas.

Home Learning

Home learning will be set termly. Children will be set a selection of activities that they can do throughout the term. At the end of the term there will be a celebration of their home learning when they can bring in all the work, they have done for a class display. Spelling activities will also be available every week. We will also sometimes set activities on the interactive online programme Mathletics. Logins for Spelling Shed activities, Mathletics and Time Tables Rock Stars will be given at the front of homework books.



PE

Willow class PE will take place on a Monday (with 'Ignite Sports') and a Friday (with the class teacher). The children should come to school in their PE kit which they will stay in for the whole day. This will avoid the need for children changing clothes in school. The children learn PE from our PE scheme of work, 'Real PE', which aims to create positive relationships with physical activity for life. Whenever possible, PE will take place outside so children will need to wear tracksuit bottoms and a sweatshirt.

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.uk

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 three 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 end of the day.

Reminders

School starts at 8:40, with the gates opening at 8:35. The school gates close at 8:50 and registers are taken at this time. If you arrive after 8:50 your child will be marked down as arriving late for the day.

- Packed lunches – please can we remind you that the school requests that packed lunches do not contain nuts or sesame – 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.
- Snack – Children are welcome to bring a healthy snack for playtime. A piece of fruit or veg is provided at school.
- 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. Obviously in the current climate please do not bring your child to school if they have a temperature, a cough, have lost their sense of smell or have any other symptoms that could be associated with the Corona Virus.
- Hair – please can you ensure that long hair is tied back. This helps ensure children's safety when using climbing equipment etc. and it also curbs the spread of head lice.
- Instruction for Covid-related illness and absence will be updated in-line with ongoing government guidance.

With very many thanks, and looking forward to working with you this year.

Ali Saville and Pat Vincent

Class Teachers

