



Elliott Park School
Newsletter

Class:	Stuart	Term:	2
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I hope you all had a lovely half term break and I welcome you back to the second term of this academic year which will be very busy and exciting for the children.

For English this term, we will begin by reading the story 'The firework maker's daughter.' We will be using this story to think about how each character feels and also to consider the different professions that grownups may have will be cross-curricular with Art, in which we will focus on different ways in which we can create firework displays. We will then move onto two stories by Michael Morpurgo. Within this, we will be thinking about how stories may be different from the point of view of different characters. There will be a big focus on editing work to improve throughout this term.

At the start of the term will we be revisiting rounding in Maths. This is something that has come up in Big Maths, but we will be going into a little more detail. Following this we will look at different methods of multiplication, with the children then being able to choose the one they feel most comfortable with. Division will follow this and then our final topic will be co-ordinates. Big Maths will continue the same as in term one. Please encourage the children to practise times table regularly and this is an important skill that they will use daily within lessons.

In PHSE we will focus on relationships and friendships and how we could be more accepting of others.

In Science this term children will become rock detectives by learning about different types of rocks, their formation and properties by carrying out investigations. They will then find out about fossils and soils.

Our P.E. sessions will be based upon improving and developing skills in hockey whilst in swimming we will continue to improve our stroke techniques and diving skills as well as introducing aspects of water safety and have some fun with synchronised swimming and water polo.

In computing, year 4 will be completing the Dragons Spells coding course. They will also learn about some basic aspects of electricity and its importance in Computing.

History and Geography will still be taught alternately each term over the academic year. This will allow us to spend more time focusing on topic areas and developing crucial skills highlighted in the curriculum. In term 2 Geography will be taught. The children will be investigating the region of

Malopolska, which is in the South of Poland. We will compare this region to the UK. We will then move on to looking at planet Earth from the international space station. We will consider what Earth looks like from space and how this compares to a 2D map of the Earth.

In RE, we will continue looking at Hinduism, focussing on the festival of Diwali. This will include understanding the story of Rama and Sita, how Hindus prepare for Diwali and the reasons why diva lamps are used to support this celebration. After spending the first term in PHSE, getting to know each other, discussing our strengths and those of the other children in Key Stage 2, we will now move on to look at relationships and friendships including how we can be more accepting of others. The children will also discuss antisocial behaviour and their responsibilities at home and at school. Before the end of term we will spend time considering Christmas and how the Nativity story differs between the Bible story and in more modern versions.

The children have settled in to the Key Stage 2 choir very well. Having worked hard to start learning the music for the Young Voices concert in February, the children are now also busy learning their Christmas pieces ready for the end of term concert. They are also going to be participating in a performance in the local community, giving them the opportunity to practise performance skills and share the happiness music can bring. Group recorder sessions are also progressing very well, and Mr Burleigh is impressed with the hard work and enthusiasm of the children each week.

Homework will continue in the same way as term 1, with children having spellings to learn and put these spellings into their own sentences. As mentioned previously, please also encourage your child to practise times tables regularly. Please ensure that your child is completing their homework independently as this will allow me to see the progress they are making. In addition to this, please use the Homework Diary to record when your child reads at home, along with any comments or questions you may have regarding this. If you are able to, continuing to hear your child read aloud, discussing unknown vocabulary and asking questions regarding what they have read would be extremely beneficial to their development.

Important dates for this term:

Poppy appeal items will be on sale soon, (dates to follow) during morning playtimes. Children will be able to obtain paper poppies for a donation and purchase other items such wristbands and bracelets for cost ranging from 50p to £2.

On 2nd November, those children who have been given parental permission, will be receiving the Flu Vaccination.

5th to 7th November Year 6 Bikeability course.

Children in Need Friday 16th November. We will be holding a non-uniform day with a spotty theme, donations for wearing non-uniform £1.

The PTA Christmas Craft Fayre at school Saturday 17th November.

Class and individual photographs will be taken on 20th November - full winter uniform please.

The KS2 choir performance will be at Vincent Court residential home on 3rd December.

4th December - Whole school pantomime trip (not Nursery), to the Maidstone Panto to see 'Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs'.

12th December - British Olympic gymnast Courtney Tulloch will be visiting our school.

13th December - PTA Christmas wrapping room, children will be able to purchase gifts for family members at a cost of £2 which will be wrapped and labelled for them to take home as a surprise for their loved ones at Christmas. Children will also be provided with a Christmas lunch and party afternoon for a cost of £3.

14th December - End of term performance at Layzell's. KS1 will be performing a short Christmas play, followed by a selection of songs by the KS2 choir. Term 2 will finish at the end of the performance.

If at any time you have any questions, comments or concerns about your child, please do not hesitate to contact me either before or after school, by email or by a note in the Homework Diary.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Mrs Daniella Hales