



Elliott Park School
Newsletter

Class:	Norman	Term:	2
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Dear Parents

I hope you had an enjoyable half term and welcome you back to a very busy and exciting term for the children. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Olivia to the class, who enjoyed a trial day with us before half term. Last term was extremely successful, the children all settled in well, and have already started making notable progress in lots of areas of learning. The children are working hard on developing their own work ethic and taking responsibility for aspects of their own learning and were extremely proud when comparing work completed at the beginning and end of term.

In English, during term one, the children worked hard to use beach and under the sea themed stories as a focus for developing specific writing techniques and writing their own pieces. We will start term two by looking more closely at the structure of different styles of non-fiction text types, while developing the necessary grammar and punctuation to continue to improve writing produced. The final part of the term will involve the children creating their own winter themed poetry and short stories based on those read together in class.

In maths, the children completed a great deal of work on place value and concept of number before moving on to addition and subtraction, ensuring they made excellent progress, allowing us to develop this further looking at more complex addition problems. During this term, we will be recapping calculation methods, looking at various aspects related to time, before also moving on to begin work on data handling methods. Knowledge of times tables are crucial in all aspects of maths and these should be practised as often as possible to ensure the children's knowledge of these is secure, starting with 10s, 2s and 5s. Using Times Tables Rock Stars for home practise is crucial to ensure regular fast-paced recall of number facts.

In Science this term, the children will learn about what is alive and what's not. They will collect specimens and sort them into categories and investigate habitats and food chains. They will end the topic by designing and making a bug hotel that contains a variety of micro habitats to encourage a range of creatures.

In PE, our sessions will be based upon developing and improving skills in hockey. The children will also be investigating a range of dance styles and techniques. Please ensure full PE Kits, including tracksuits, remain at school all week. Wednesday and Friday will be your child's main PE sessions; however, they may have a session on a different day during the week.

In Computing, students will continue to develop their coding skills by finishing the Space Cadet coding course. They will also learn how to store and retrieve information using technology.

This term in Topic our focus will be on Geography. We will start by investigate our school environment and using terms north, south, east and west to describe directions. We will then consider the different ways we can travel to school and then to other places around the world. Finally, we will be exploring the four countries on the UK and their capital cities.

This term in Art, we will be focussing on the work of Giuseppe Arcimboldo and looking at portraits in a while new light. The children will explore a variety of Arcimboldo's paintings and find out what different natural materials he used to create his portraits. They will then have a go at creating portraits to represent different things, including portraits made up of their interest.

RE for this term will be entitled 'Gifts and Giving'. This will encourage children to think about different types of gifts and why giving is import. They will also explore the Christian celebration Christmas and Islamic festival Eid al-Fitr. Children will learn why Christmas can be important to many Christians and why Eif al-Fitr can be important to many Muslims. Children will learn how both are celebrated and will then go on to explore the importance of giving and gifts in both celebrations.

Our topic in PSHE this term is 'Safety First'. In our 'safety first' unit children will learn about everyday dangers, in the home and outside and how they can keep themselves safe. Children will also learn about the Internet and how to stay safe online. They will be taught about the Underwear Rule, which includes information about knowing that what is inside their underwear is private. Children will also learn about people who help them and how to get help when needed, as well as their growing responsibility for their own safety.

Personal reading, learning weekly spellings using Spelling Shed and using the Times Tables Rock Stars app will form a large percentage of your child's homework, for which I thank you in advance for your support. Starting this term, I will be sending home a homework book with a weekly writing task. This will only be very simple, and the children should be completely these independently.

Although we are unable to send reading books home, we will continue to hear children read at school throughout the week. Please continue to use the Homework Diary to record if your child reads at home, along with any comments or questions you may have regarding this. Hearing your child read aloud, discussing unknown vocabulary and asking questions regarding what they have read is extremely beneficial to their development. If possible, please find time for your children to read every day, and discuss with them what they have read, as this is how they will make the most progress.

If at any time you have any questions or comments about your child, please do not hesitate to contact me a note in the Homework Diary. I look forward to working with you in order to enhance your child's school experience.

Here are some important dates for your diary:

- Poppy appeal items will be on sale in Year 2 for 2 weeks. Children will be able to purchase poppy themed items such wristbands and bracelets ranging from 50p to £2 donations.
- Class and individual photographs will be taken on Thursday 5th November in the afternoon. Full winter uniform to be worn, please.
- Children in Need: We will be holding a non-uniform day on Friday 13th November with a spotty theme, donations for wearing non-uniform £2.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Miss Nina Montgomery