



Elliott Park School
Newsletter

Class:	Stuart	Term:	1
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I hope you had a lovely summer holiday and welcome you to the first term of the academic year. I am extremely excited to be teaching Stuart class this year and look forwards to continue building relationships with you all.

For English this term, we will start off by researching biographies. We will then move on to folktales and fables, particularly paying attention to the morals that can be learnt from these stories. Following this we will spend some time looking at free poems and how these can be used to describe outside spaces. Letter writing will also feature in English this term. This will involve distinguishing between formal and informal letters and the purposes they have. Finally, we will be learning about story settings and how we can use these to 'paint a picture' in the readers' mind.

At the start of the term we will be revisiting place value in Maths which will then lead onto different methods of addition and subtraction. We will then move onto fractions and decimals, learning about different fraction families, adding and subtracting fractions with the same denominator and decimal equivalents of common fractions. I will also be introducing the class to 'Big Maths.' This will be similar to the mental maths that we have been used to in the past. We will have short inputs at the start of each Maths lesson in which we will focus on the basic Maths skills required to numerate. Times tables will also be featured in our Maths sessions and children will be expected to revise these at home as part of their homework.

History and Geography will 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 1, History will be taught focusing on Pre-Roman Britain. This includes the Stone Age, the Bronze Age and the Iron Age. The children will consider the different types of evidence used by historians to determine what each period of time was like. At the end of this topic the class will have the opportunity to create a fact file about what they have learnt and add in any other information they have researched for themselves.

In RE this term, the children will begin to look at other cultures and beliefs. We begin by exploring and understanding the beliefs and values in Sikhism.

In Science this term, the children will learn about the functions and the types of teeth, the digestive system and a balanced diet, as well as looking at food chains and predators and linking this with teeth and their diet.

Our focus for P.E. will be on the skills and techniques of rugby.

In Computing students will be looking at the importance of e-safety. Pupils will also start the coding app Fix the Factory and further develop their computational thinking skills.

In Art this term, we will introduce the children to the much-admired works of the pop artist, Roy Lichtenstein. We will be looking closely at his works and attempt to recreate some of this pop art for a school art project.

The children will continue to form part of the Key Stage 2 choir and will now begin working on their musical pieces for the end of the Christmas term. The choir has also been registered to take part in the Young Voices event again, held at the O2 Arena at the beginning of next year. We will also begin this term by learning some of the songs for this event. Group recorder sessions with Mr Burleigh will continue weekly. If any of the children, who haven't already would like to begin private music lessons for piano, keyboard, violin, recorder or singing with Mr Burleigh (at an additional cost), these can also be arranged. I would like to remind you that these are arranged directly with Mr Burleigh, however, we will endeavour to ensure they are at minimal disruption to lessons.

For homework this year, the children will need to practise all of the times tables at home regularly. This will be tested once a week on a Monday alongside the Maths skills we have covered within the class that week. Spellings will continue to be set on 'Spelling shed' weekly and these will be tested on a Monday morning. Children are able to earn more golden time by completing the required amount of spellings set each week. 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.

Below are some dates for your diary.

Sept	
12 th	Kent Test 11+ - Year 6 only
12 th	3.20 11+ info session – Year 5 only
12 th	3.20 Phonics information session for Nursery, Reception & Year 1 & 2 only
24 th	Kent Messenger First Class photo – Reception only
Oct	
18 th	Harvest Festival food collection
18 th	End of Term 1
29 th	Term 2 begins – Winter uniform only
29 th	Parents Evening – Yr 1, Yr 4, Yr5 & Yr 6
30 th	Parents Evening – Nursery, Yr2, Reception, & Yr 3
Nov	
4 th	Individual and Class Photographs
15 th	Orchard Theatre Trip (Dartford) - Key Stage 2 only
Dec	
2 nd	Flu vaccinations to include Reception & Years 1,2,3,4 & 5
11 th	Gulbenkian Theatre Trip (Canterbury) - Reception & Key Stage 1 only
12 th	Christmas present wrapping room & Christmas party
13 th	Christmas performance – whole school except Nursery

POLITE REMINDER

Elliott Park School has a 'NO NUT' policy, which includes hazelnut chocolate spreads in sandwiches. We have children currently at the school with nut allergies and I'm sure you can appreciate we do not want to put these children in any unnecessary dangers.

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, or by a note in the Homework Diary.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Mrs Daniella Hales