

Sherborne Abbey CE VC Primary School

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Headteacher - Mrs Ann Marie Kampf

Friday 14 September 2018

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the first term of this school year. This term our topic will be Explorers. This letter gives a snap-shot of what we will be learning over the next 14 weeks. Please do contact us if there is any matter you wish to discuss.

Literacy - In Literacy, we will spend the first half-term focusing on Shackleton's journey by William Grill, writing diaries, reports, explanations and stories. Following half-term, we will focus on a writing project about the Victorians.

Maths – In Maths this term we will begin by looking at place value. Then we will revise the four operations, with particular focus on solving word problems. We will then be looking at how to calculate the area and perimeter of compound shapes. Finally, we will study statistics, with a particular emphasis on line graphs, tables and timetables.

Art/DT – Steam Punk Dolls The children will design and sew their own steam punk doll, a futuristic Victorian toy.

Geography - Exploring the Antarctic In this subject, which will tie in with our Literacy work based on the adventurer Ernest Shackleton, we will be learning about the Antarctic, exploring how the continent is represented on maps and how environmental factors are shaping its future. We will study this subject in the first half-term.

History - The Victorians After half-term, we will begin learning about the Victorians and how they have impacted on our lives at a national and local level.

Science – Space and Forces In the first half-term, when studying forces, we will learn about gravity; the effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction; and, how mechanisms allow a smaller force to have a greater effect. When we study our Space topic, we will be learning to describe the movement of the Earth, and other planets, around the sun; the movement of the moon around the earth; how the Earth's rotation on its axis creates night and day; and, how its orbit round the sun causes the seasons.

French – The children will expand their French vocabulary, improve their speaking and listening, and continue to work on writing simple sentences.

Computing/Music – Audacity The first computing topic will see the children learning how to make and edit musical rhythms using the computer package Audacity.

Guided Reading, Spelling and Grammar– Children will continue to engage with the Accelerated Reader scheme. Children will read every day, taking quizzes to measure their comprehension when they have completed their books. In addition to this, some children will benefit from reading to volunteers who come into school and working in small booster groups out of class. All children will also be involved in weekly guided reading sessions. To promote better more consistent spelling skills, children will be involved in daily spelling and grammar activities.

Maths and Literacy and Homework – Children spend an hour a day engaged in each of these core subjects. Weekly tests are held for times tables. Maths and Literacy and tables homework is set on Friday and needs to be in by the following Wednesday.

PE and Games – Tag Rugby, Football, Netball and Gymnastics – In the first half-term, for Mrs Tooze’s class, Tag Rugby will be held on Monday and Gymnastics will be held on Wednesday afternoons. For Miss Neville’s class, Gymnastics will be held on Wednesday and Tag Rugby will take place on Thursday. After half-term, Mrs Tooze’s class will have Netball (for the girls) and Football (for the boys) on a Monday, Miss Neville’s class will do this on a Thursday.

For Gymnastics, children need to wear a red t-shirt and black shorts. Children are encouraged to bring in tracksuit bottoms, studded boots and warm jumpers for outdoor activities, especially in the colder, muddier winter months.

Yours sincerely

Miss Neville and Mrs Tooze
Year 5 teachers