



Fen Ditton C. P. School

Nightingales class: Years 3 and 4

Summer Term 2017 Link Letter

In the table below you will find information about the topics your child will be covering, in each of the curriculum subjects over the next term.

Subject	Theme
English	We shall begin by revising punctuation, grammar and spelling skills. Children will then practice applying these skills in independent pieces of writing, grouping their sentences into linked paragraphs. We will devote several weeks to non-fiction texts using our new 'Talk4Writing' approach. Linking to our topic and recent educational visit, the children will research and write up tourist guides to Cambridge and Woburn Safari Park.
Mathematics	Maths lessons shall continue to be taught according to our new 'Teaching for Mastery' approach, aiming to develop children's understanding in all areas of math, beginning with basic fluency, through to more complex reasoning skills, and finally solving puzzles and problems. For the first half-term our main theme will be fractions, numbers, measures and calculations. Lessons will continue to include a mix of mental and written maths methods, but will always start with a 'warm up' activity. When the children register each morning, there will be a 'morning maths' task to complete – we shall concentrate on applying calculation skills in real-life contexts.
Science	We will focus on physics this term, beginning with forces and magnets, before turning our attention to electricity. Much of the science work will involve practical activities in the classroom.
Topic (History and Geography)	Having investigated recently the theme of 'Riotous Royals', we will turn our attention to local matters, looking at what life is like for ordinary people in Cambridge.
Religious Education	R.E. lessons will focus on the core beliefs and practices of Sikhism.
Physical Education	P.E. lessons will take place on Wednesdays (with Premier Sport) and Thursdays (with Mr. McDonnell). The children will be taught outdoor teamwork and problem solving activities, learning key skills of co-operation and communication. Premier Sport will concentrate on teaching athletics. Please make sure that all PE kit is named and includes a white t-shirt, blue or black shorts and trousers together with appropriate footwear for indoors and outdoors. Please ensure earrings are taken out and hair bands are provided to tie long hair back. (If children have one of the school coloured t-shirts to represent their house, they may wear them in PE lessons.)
Personal Development	We will investigate the theme of managing risks, followed by understanding safety in different contexts. Whole class 'circle time' sessions each week on Tuesdays will help explore and reflect on these themes. We will promote through assemblies, certificates

	and class-work the core Fen Ditton values of resilience, respect, courage and kindness.
Art and design (design and technology)	These will focus largely I.T. skills, tied in to our project of designing and making tourist and visitor attraction guides and leaflets.
Computing	Computing will focus at first on formatting and designing information leaflets, followed by data handling techniques.
Music	The children will have music lessons with Miss Turner, continuing to learn to play the recorder.
Languages	The children shall be taught French once a fortnight.
Homework	This will be set every Friday and will comprise: Reading as much as possible over the week; A spellings, grammar or a comprehension activity; A mathematics task, linked to what we have been learning in lessons OR a practice session for our 'times table Challenge'. Optional: one other piece related to any other subject area. Please ensure homework is returned the following Wednesday.
Assessment	Assessment will include: Reading comprehension and maths exercises every half term. Independent writing pieces at the end of every English unit. Pupils will be assessed against age related expectations from the new national curriculum.
How to support your child at home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read with them daily or as much as possible, which includes your child reading to you and you reading to them. • Help them complete the homework set • Practise telling the time on analogue and digital clocks • Quick times tables questions • Please encourage your child to use the Mathletics website – I have login details, if they have lost them. • Please explore the 'espresso learning website' with your child. It covers all areas of the curriculum, but is particularly good for improving spelling, grammar and punctuation skills. Please use login name: 'student6209' and password 'espresso'.

If you wish to discuss any information included in the table above or you have any further questions, please book an appointment to see me.

Thank you,

Mr. McDonnell