



Fen Ditton C. P. School



Peacocks Class Year 1

Spring 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	<p>Linking in with our topic of explorers, during the first half term, we will be creating diary recounts and letters. To support our writing we will use Talk 4 Writing to help us to sequence the important features.</p> <p>For the second half term we will be looking at seasonal changes and the local area. We will be producing an explanation text for planting seeds and creating spring poetry.</p> <p>In Phonics we will be continuing our learning of Phase 5 sounds and alternative spellings. We will also practise spelling tricky high frequency words.</p> <p>During Guided Reading sessions, the children will work in groups to read and answer comprehension questions.</p>
Mathematics	<p>During this half term we will be continuing our learning of place value and addition and subtraction. We will also learn to tell the time using language: half past, o'clock, dates, days of the week, months of the year, faster, slower, earlier, later, hours, minutes, seconds. We will also look at measurement in the form of length and height, multiplication and division and fractions. As part of this learning we will focus on three main strands of Mastery Maths: fluency, reasoning and problem solving. The children will use practical equipment to support their learning and will have the opportunity to use this in other areas of the curriculum (e.g. measuring plants in Science) and during early morning maths activities.</p>
Science	<p>During the first half term our focus will be on seasonal changes related to winter. We will investigate the effect on water when the temperature changes.</p> <p>The second half of the term will focus on plants. We will be looking at the different parts of a plant and investigating the different elements need to help plants grow.</p> <p>In addition, there will be a whole school Science/Maths Week during 13th-17th March.</p>
Topic (History and Geography)	<p>During the first half term we will be looking at what makes someone a significant explorer and will be learning about Christopher Columbus and Robert Falcon Scott. The outcome of the topic is to describe significant people from the past.</p> <p>During the second half term we will be looking at our local area. We will go on a local area walk and plant hunt.</p>
Religious Education	<p>During the first half term the children will cover what Christians and Jews believe about creation. We will be learning the creation story from the bible and exploring what it would be like to be the first people on earth and how we take care of the planet now.</p>

	<p>During the second half term the children will cover caring for others. We will be looking at how we can be kind to each other and look after one another. The children will learn about kindness and the importance of caring for others, by exploring the values of different religions.</p>
Physical Education	<p>On Wednesday afternoons PE sessions will be taught by Mr Grant. Miss Ingham will teach the PE session on Friday afternoons.</p> <p>During this term the children will cover fundamental movement skills with Mr Grant and dance with Miss Ingham.</p> <p>Please make sure your child's PE kit is in school for the term, ensuring that all PE kit is named and includes a white t-shirt, blue/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.</p> <p>If your child has one of the school coloured t-shirts to represent their house, it would be great if they could wear it in PE lessons.</p>
Personal Development	<p>Miss Prosser will teach Personal Development on a Tuesday afternoon during the Spring term. The children will be learning about working together and financial capability during the first half term and sex and relationships education during the second half term (a separate letter will be sent out in due course).</p> <p>In addition, the children will participate in whole class circle time each week on a Tuesday morning.</p>
Art and design	<p>As part of our topic on explorers the children will use clay to make sculptures of igloos. We will also look at the pictures created by artist and scientist Dr Edward Wilson, who was a member of the Scott Polar expedition team.</p> <p>During the second half term, as part of our learning on plants, we will look at famous artists who have used flowers and plants as their inspiration (such as Van Gogh and Monet). The children will have the opportunity to create their own flower paintings using different materials.</p>
Design Technology	<p>During the first half term the children will design and make their own ship for an exploration. They will investigate the possible different materials they can use to help them to design their boat and then use these to build the boat. They will then evaluate their design and make suggestions for how they would build it differently next time and why.</p> <p>During the second half term we will be looking at building a protective structure to allow plants to grow.</p>
Computing	<p>Mrs Nicholls will teach computing this term. During the first half term the children will be learning about data and information. During the second half term the children will be learning about algorithms and programming.</p>
Music	<p>Miss Turner from Cambridgeshire Music Service will be teaching the children. They will be learning the skills needed to play the glockenspiel during the first half term and boomwhackers and rhythm work during the second half term.</p>
Homework	<p>This will be set every Friday and will consist of the following:</p> <p>Reading as much as possible over the week.</p> <p>Phonics words and suggested additional activity.</p> <p>Mathematics activity linked to what we have been learning in lessons.</p>

	<p>Optional: one other piece related to any other subject area. Please ensure homework is returned the following Wednesday.</p>
Assessment	<p>Reading comprehension, spelling/grammar exercises and maths assessments will be completed every half term. In addition, children will have the opportunity to complete independent writing tasks during the term to support their on-going writing progress</p>
How to support your child at home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read with them daily or as much as possible, this includes your child reading to you and you reading to them • Complete homework set including phonics flash cards (to help prepare for the Year 1 Phonics test in June 2017) • Carry out practical activities such as cooking, measuring, counting and using money • Practise telling the time on analogue and digital clocks • Play a range of board games to consolidate themes in taught in different subjects and to develop turn taking and cooperation skills • Use different materials you have around the home to build and create things to stimulate and develop their creativity • Find fun purposes for writing such as keeping diaries of what you do over the weekend, writing shopping lists, post cards, letters to friends and family • Keep up to date with what is happening at school and up and coming events by reading the newsletter and checking the website regularly

Details regarding trips will follow later in the term.

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 for your support,

Miss Ingham