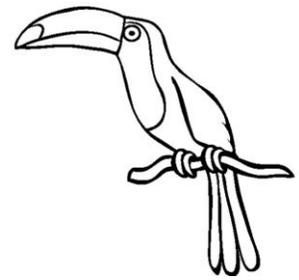


Fen Ditton C. P. School



## Toucans Years 2 and 3

### 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
<b>English</b>	<p>In the first half term, we will be looking at the novel <i>The Railway Children</i>, using its themes and characters to write letters and character descriptions. We will also be creating information texts related to types of transport. In the second half term, we will look at the text <i>The Secret Garden</i> which will inspire a new adventure story in a similar style. Poetry throughout the term will be inspired by these two novels, as well as by the theme of transport.</p> <p>Daily phonics/spelling work will include practice of our Common Exception Words as well as continued work with more tricky suffixes and unusual spelling patterns. In reading, we will ramp up our comprehension skills with exercises in finding information from a text, making inferences and ordering events.</p> <p>Pre-cursive or cursive handwriting is now the expectation and children will be practicing this in handwriting lessons, as well as in all writing across the curriculum.</p>
<b>Mathematics</b>	<p>The children will have daily maths lessons following the 'Mastery Maths' initiative. Through this approach the children spend longer on mathematical topics to enable them to develop a deeper understanding of the key concepts and to improve their fluency, problem solving and reasoning skills. This term we are specifically focusing on fractions, properties of shape, money and length and mass. Regular opportunities will be built in to develop your child's mental maths skills and cross curricular links will be made to our topic focuses where possible. We will also be continuing with the superhero times table initiative. Each morning when the children enter the classroom there will be a morning maths activity for the children to be getting on with independently linked to our themes of the week or an area which needs practicing.</p>
<b>Science</b>	<p>Our Science work will focus on famous Scientists and inventors for the first half term and in the second we will be learning about forces. Lots of our lessons will involve the children completing investigations and will enable them to develop their questioning, making observations and recording skills with links being made to Mathematics.</p>
<b>Topic (History and Geography)</b>	<p>In the first half term we will study transport, looking at transport through time, boats and locomotives. We will look at famous inventors related to transport. In the second half term we will learn about children through History, particularly focusing on education. We have a very exciting trip booked- details will follow shortly. We will also be able to handle and explore many historical artefacts through this topic.</p>

<b>Religious Education</b>	This term we will focus on Christianity. We will be looking at the following questions: What do Christians believe about creation? What makes a church a special place for Christians? How can I respond sensitively to a special place and its importance to people? Why is showing respect for other people's beliefs and places of worship important?
<b>Physical Education</b>	<b>Your child has PE on Wednesdays and Thursday this year.</b> One lesson a week will be delivered by Mr Grant who is a Premier Sports coach and will consist of fundamental movement skills. The other lesson will be taught by Miss James and will cover gymnastics. The children will need the following kit and please make sure it is all clearly named: A white t-shirt, blue/black shorts and trousers together with <b>appropriate footwear for indoors and outdoors. Please ensure earrings are taken out and hair bands are provided to tie long hair back.</b> If children have one of the school coloured t-shirts to represent their house, it would be great if they could wear them in PE lessons.
<b>Personal Development</b>	Our first whole school topic is 'Working Together' where children will be given group tasks to complete using their teamwork and communication skills. This will be followed by a study of 'Financial Capability' which will focus on the idea of saving money and the difference between "needs" and "wants".
<b>Art and design</b>	Lots of our art pieces will be linked to topic work and Victorian artists and the work of Claude Monet.
<b>Design Technology</b>	We will be building various modes of transport, including a Viking ship!
<b>Computing</b>	Computing lessons will be taught by Miss Butler and Mrs Bertone this half term and the children will be learning about importance of computer safety and computer presentation skills.
<b>Music</b>	Music lessons will be taught by Miss James this half term and will include singing songs linked to different topics and playing percussion instruments.
<b>Forest School</b>	First half of Spring Term every Thursday afternoon, separate letter was sent out just before the Christmas holidays.
<b>Homework</b>	This will be set every <b>Friday</b> and will consist of the following: Reading as much as possible over the week Phonics/Spellings/Grammar or a comprehension activity Mathematics e.g. number bonds, times tables, divisions or linked to what we have been learning in lessons. <b>Optional:</b> One other piece related to any other subject area or projects to complete over the half term. <b>Please ensure homework is returned the following Wednesday.</b>
<b>Assessment</b>	Reading comprehension exercises every half term Spelling and Grammar exercises every half term Independent writing pieces every half term Maths assessments every half term Practise SATS papers regularly over the year
<b>How to support your child at home</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read with them daily or as much as possible, this includes your child reading to you and you reading to them</li> <li>• Complete homework set</li> <li>• Carry out practical activities such as cooking, measuring, counting and using money</li> <li>• Practise telling the time on analogue and digital clocks</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Play a range of board games to consolidate themes taught in different subjects and to develop turn taking and cooperation skills</li><li>• Use different materials you have around the home to build and create things to stimulate and develop their creativity</li><li>• 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</li><li>• Keep up to date with what is happening at school and up and coming events by reading the newsletter and checking the website regularly</li></ul>
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If you wish to discuss any information included in the table above or you have any further questions, please book an appointment to see us.

Thank you for your support,

Miss James and Mrs Bertone