**Frieth School**



**Kestrels’ Curriculum News for Parents**

**SPRING TERM 2018**

We hope you all had a joyous Christmas and New Year break. Thank you for all our gifts. They were very much appreciated by all of us.

Our whole school topic is **Helping Hands** and we always appreciate any artefacts brought in that can support our topics. Please see the website for photos and more information. Whilst talking about the website, we do update our class page regularly so take a look under the pupils tab and class pages drop down menu.

Here is what the children will be learning for the Spring Term. We have underlined the topics in each subject.

English

The children will be reading a range of different texts connected with our topic, Helping Hands. We are going to spend some time looking at biographies and autobiographies. The children will discover the features of these genres and will then use these to create their own.

By reading a range of different news reports including some from the Second World War, the children will discover the key-features of this style of writing, and produce their own interesting reports in order to effectively share information.

Inspired by **A Child’s Garden of Verses** by Robert Louis Stevenson, the children will analyse the vocabulary used in a poem, find interesting and unusual rhymes for words they want to use, collect ideas for a class poem, write rhyming couplets, write the verse of a poem similar to one they have read all while studying traditional poetry

We are continuing to work on developing a cursive handwriting script and ensuring that letters have clear lead ins and lead outs.

Alongside this we will also teach SPaG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) taught both as discrete lessons as well as having the ongoing expectations that the children constantly improve upon their writing using the skills they have been taught. Examples of this are present tense of verbs; Extending range of sentences with more than one clause and using a wide range of conjunctions, including those expressing time, place and cause; Use grammatical categories: Noun, adjective, verb, adverb and preposition; Use prepositions to express time or place.

We would love to see high quality homework that also incorporates our handwriting style and SPaG skills

We will also be repeating the school Spelling Championship, which will be based on the word list placed on the school website.

Every week the children will read with the teacher in Guided Reading sessions. They are expected to read at least 3 times a week at home with an adult, who should record/sign their reading record.

# Maths:

This term we start our maths learning for both year groups by focusing on multiplication and division. This will occupy the first half of the term and will include recall of multiplication and division facts (supported by the weekly Cracking Times Table session) and learning different methods for multiplying and dividing larger numbers. Importantly, it will also include the ability to reason with this knowledge and apply it to solve real world situations and problems. To this end you can support your child by looking for opportunities to “talk maths” in everyday life; cookery and the money are a couple of examples of this but you will be able to think of many others. Later in the term both groups will be working with fractions and decimals.

Science:

We will begin our science learning this term with a unit on **Animals including humans.** This will include a look at the different parts and purposes of our digestive system. We’ll also be learning about the types and functions of teeth teeth which will include an investigation on tooth decay. Later on in the term we’ll take a look at Forces which will also include magnets. **Forces:** In the second half of the term we will be looking at Forces. We will identify pushes and pulls as forces and explore how things move on different surfaces - friction. The children will find out about attraction and repulsion by magnetic forces and which materials are magnetic. We will try our hand at a bit of orienteering and look at compasses and uses of magnets. We will have some fun with magnets and creating a scientific investigation. We will link this topic to the previous topic and look at a gravity and its effect on earth and space.

Computing:

In computing we will continue to learn about the vital issues that relate to E safety and this will be a repeating theme through the remainder of the year. We’ll also be developing the children’s coding skills and giving them to improve their skills in preparing presentations skills using Powerpoint and other tools.

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P.E:

Games Netball and tennis - The children will practise the skills of these games and have the opportunity to apply them in game situations which we hope they will enjoy.

Gymnastics In the term’s first half the children will be developing their balancing and rolling skills and will be using the PE apparatus to extend these skills. Dance - After half term we will be developing their movements to music working towards the planning and performance of a routine.

Please could you ensure that the children have their P.E. clothes in school on a **Wednesday** and a **Friday**. They would benefit from having tracksuit bottoms for outdoor PE as the weather can be very cold during the spring term. The children will need shorts and T shirt for indoor PE

Art:

Painting

Yr3 Will be mixing colour tints using primary and secondary colours. They will respond to the work of Van Gogh and Sean Scully and experiment with the techniques of 'tonking' and 'sgraffito'. Yr4 will paint on different surfaces and experiment with the application of colours. They will respond to the work of Georgia O'Keefe and techniques used by JMW Turner.

Collage

The children will investigate explore how line, shape and space can be organised. Yr3 The children will investigate and respond to the work of Paul Klee. In response to the work of Victor Vaserly they will develop cutting and sticking skills and when looking at Henry Matisse’s work will investigate positive and negative images. Yr4 The children will respond to the work of Henry Matisse and Francis Bacon. They will create their own portraits using collage.

Design and Technology:

This term the children will be looking at World War 2 rationing

Music:

The children will learn about the language of music through playing the glockenspiel. The learning is focused around exploring and developing playing skills through the glockenspiel or if you have previous knowledge, the recorder. They will be exposed to notated music and use this according to their own experiences.

French:

Working with Madame Reynard, the children will continue to develop their vocabulary, skills and confidence in their French studies and they have begun the term by combining vocabulary on numbers with maths.

Creative:

History:

The children will ask the question - ***How did World War 2 impact our local area***? They will research, select, organise and communicate findings, develop a chronological understanding of World War Two, devise historically valid questions about World War Two, understand how knowledge of the past is constructed from a range of sources and recognise the strengths and limitations of local history as a way of telling the story of World War Two.

Geography:

***Climate is cool -*** the children will learn to read weather and climate maps, and learn how weather and climate are generalised into world climate zones. The concept of biomes will be explored, each with distinctive climate, soil, flora, fauna and human activity.

Topic homework will be going out on Monday 29th January and will be due in on Friday the 9th February.

R.E.:

This term, the class will find out about the importance and significance of sacred texts to believers. Children will use a variety of sources: written, visual and real people. They will use material taken directly from the sacred text and study its meaning and effect on the lives of believers. Children will discover the messages within sacred texts, and develop their understanding of this type of material and its effect on people’s lives. They will have opportunities to think about the significance of important words in their own lives, which could provide opportunities for spiritual and moral development.

P.S.H.E:

I hope – I’m special: The children will think about setting simple goals, planning for the future. They will demonstrate how to look after money and save money.

I feel - I’m special: The children will identify different types of relationships. They will make choices about how to develop healthy life styles.

**Homework expectations – Kestrels**

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|  | **Year 3** | **Year 4** |
| **Daily reading** | ✓ | ✓ |
| **Daily spellings practice based on spelling lists sent home every Monday and then tested the following Monday. (Mrs Sparks)** | ✓ | ✓ |
| **Daily mental arithmetic practice to support Cracking Times Tables which will be tested every Wednesday.(Mr Honey)** | ✓ | ✓ |
| **English activity (additional to spelling) – sent home on Mondays and returned the following Monday (Mrs Sparks)** | Fortnightly (25mins) | Weekly (25-30 mins) |
| **Maths – Sent home every Friday to *be handed in by the following Thursday.(Mr Honey)99*** | Weekly (25 mins) | Weekly (25-30 mins) |
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* Children should be prepared for the day with the equipment they need. Reading books and records must be in school every day. The children do not need to bring in any pencil cases.
* Children are expected to have their PE kit in school every day. This should include tracksuit and outdoor trainers.
* Any water bottle brought into school should be named.
* Children can bring things in to school if it is related to the work that we are doing.
* Remember to keep an eye on our school website as we update our class page regularly.

Please do come and see us in the first instance should you have any concerns or points to raise.

Mrs Sparks and Mr Honey