

Dear Parents,

I hope that you have had a peaceful Christmas holiday and wish you a very happy new year. May I take this opportunity on behalf of all of your child's teachers to thank all those who gave us Christmas gifts; we were touched by your generosity and kindness. We have had a good start back and I am writing to tell you about the work that will be covered in Year 6 this term.

In Literacy, the children will be working on a variety of text types, including biographical and autobiographical writing together with persuasive and discursive writing. After half-term, we will focus more closely on a programme geared towards the SATS Reading Comprehension paper and the Grammar, Spelling and Punctuation paper, whilst still making sure that the children have opportunities to continue their development as writers. They should continue to read for pleasure and record their reading in their blue reading record books. Spelling homework is given on Mondays together with other homework usually set on Thursdays.

In Numeracy, the children will continue in their maths groups, being either taught by Mr Haywood or me. We will be focussing on written methods of calculation, angles, fractions and percentages. Mr. Haywood's group will be looking at using algebra to solve linear equations and number sequences, data handling, probability, time and units of measure (including weight and capacity). Both groups will be continuing to work hard at improving the children's ability to use and apply their skills to different contexts and using Friday mornings for mental maths.

In Science we will spend the first half term looking at a new topic in the KS2 Curriculum, entitled Everything Changes. This deals with adaptation and evolution of species. The children will receive regular homework to prepare them for the revision programme that will begin after the half-term holiday. Each child will be issued with a Science revision guide for them to use at home. Please encourage your child to take care of this book. Any books damaged or lost will have to be replaced or money given to the school to cover the cost to purchase a replacement.

Following on from our historical study of World War Two, we will be changing to a more geographical study this term looking specifically at the Alps. This will culminate in the class creating a publication all about the region and we hope to share its content with you later in the year. They will not be having an independent project this term to allow them more time for their revision homework.

Religious Education this term will focus on how sacred texts influence the lives of individuals and communities and looking specifically at Christianity, Islam and Judaism. PSHE will equip the children to know how to deal with bullying behaviour of all types, including cyber-bullying.

As Class 4 has P.E. twice during the week, please ensure they have their kit in school specifically on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. This should include proper trainers, socks, shorts above the knee (for gym) and a warm tracksuit (for outdoor games). When the weather is very cold, gloves and a woolly hat may also be worn. It is school policy that long hair is tied up and no jewellery is worn for Games or P.E. Earrings must be removed if possible or tape supplied from home to cover them. We will be covering a mixture of outdoor games, fitness, gym and dance.

The children will continue to have Brass lessons on Thursdays so please ensure your child has his/her instrument in school on that day and regularly practises it.

If you have any concerns or wish to speak with me on any matter, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to see me.

Yours faithfully,
Mrs Sond