

Panthers' Class

Autumn Newsletter



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school! We are really looking forward to working with your children and getting started with the Year 2 curriculum. I was fortunate enough to spend a lot of time with them towards the end of the summer term. I am really looking forward to getting to know your children even better and planning lots of exciting learning activities for us over the next year. We are very lucky to have Mrs Carpenter supporting our learning this year. Ms Telling and Mrs Kroukamp will also be spending some time in our class. If you have any queries or concerns, please feel free to message on ClassDojo and I will endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible. When teaching, it can be difficult to respond to messages so it is likely I may not reply until break times or after school. I look forward to meeting you over the coming weeks! Miss MacKenzie

Literacy	Maths	Science	Geography/History
We will begin the term with writing character descriptions of animals. In this unit, we will be focussing on the children's use of adjectives, adverbs and expanded noun phrases. Following this unit, we will move onto retelling a familiar story, again encouraging the children to use varied features in their writing.	We will continue to follow the school's Maths Mastery programme starting with numbers within 100, followed by addition and subtraction of 2 - digit numbers. We will then apply this learning to word problems.	In science, the children will be building on their learning from Year 1, starting by learning about animals and humans. We will be thinking about how animals change, what they need to stay alive, and about the importance of keeping healthy.	In history we are going to be learning about the Great Fire of London; answering who, what, when, where, why and how questions. In geography, we will be learning about human and physical features. We will then be identifying these features in a local study of Kedington.

Other Curriculum subjects

Our wider curriculum subjects include computing, art, design and technology, religious education and music. We have lots of exciting activities planned for each of these subjects this term, including: making patterns using everyday objects; designing and building a fairground wheel and creating African call and response music!

PSHE & PE

PSHE and the emotional wellbeing of pupils will continue to be at the forefront of our curriculum, with twice weekly PSHE sessions. This term, Panthers class will have PE on Tuesday afternoons and Thursday mornings. Please send your children into school wearing their PE kits on these days. By the children coming to school in their PE kits, this allows us to maximise the amount of PE they are accessing, as this removes the time required for the children to change.

Homework and Spellings

Knowledge organisers for some subjects will be uploaded to Showbie ahead of us starting a new topic, please look at these and discuss these with your children as our learning progresses. Spellings will also be uploaded to Showbie on a Friday. Please practise these with your children ready for our test the following Friday. **Our Showbie class code is: 9HGJV.** A homework chart will be uploaded to Showbie for you to complete across the term.

Reading and Phonics

In the autumn term, Mrs Ahlquist will be teaching whole class reading comprehension lessons twice a week. Throughout the year, the children will study a variety of different texts. (Many of these have also been recommended on the Year 2 reading list).

Whole class phonics lessons will take place daily. We will be focussing on consolidating children's learning from Year 1. The main aim is to support children in becoming more fluent readers and more accurate spellers. Over the year some of the key focusses will be: alternative spellings for various phonemes; learning to spell the Year 2 common exception words; and adding suffixes to root words.

Please aim to listen to your children read daily. This does not have to always be their school book, but instead could be magazines and books from libraries and at home. When listening to your children read, it is highly beneficial if you also ask them questions about the text to develop their comprehension skills. This can include predictions, inference and checking understanding of vocabulary. We will provide an orange home reading record book for parents to record reading comments in. We will also note in these when your children have read to an adult in school.