

Leaffield C.E. Primary School

The Green, Leaffield, Witney, Oxfordshire, OX29 9NP

Tel: 01993 878273

Email: office.3124@leaffield.oxon.sch.uk

Web: www.leaffield.oxon.sch.uk

Follow us @Head3124

Headteacher: Ms Faye Dean



3rd November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all had a wonderful Half Term Break. It has been lovely to welcome the children back for what will be an exciting term with the run up to Christmas!

We will be continuing the topic 'Childhood'. In the Childhood project, your child will learn words and phrases related to the passage of time. They will explore artefacts to help them to understand childhood in the past and how childhood has changed over time. They will explore the six stages of life and explore timelines and family trees. Everyday life in the 1950s will be explored, including shopping, transport, family life and childhood. They will also learn about the significance of Queen Elizabeth II's coronation in 1953 by studying photographs and online sources. The children will use maps to explore how places have changed over time and highlight any similarities or differences between childhood today and childhood in the 1950s. At the end of the project, they will create knowledge organisers for children who are about to study the topic of childhood. This year, Science and RE will be taught by Mrs Jobson who will be teaching the children on a Monday. The children will be learning all about 'Seasonal Changes' in Science. They will learn about the four different seasons and the different weather changes that they bring. They will look at how we measure the direction of the wind by making windsocks and spinners. They will be learning about the sun and different light sources. In RE, the children will be exploring the big question, 'Should we celebrate Harvest or Christmas?' and will learn about different celebrations like Harvest, Sukkot, Thanksgiving and Christmas. In Geography, children will learn the about physical and human features, maps, cardinal compass points, and positional and directional language. They will learn about the equator, hemispheres and continents and are introduced to the countries, capital cities and settlements of the United Kingdom.

Reading

Children will continue to read their Read, Write Inc. (RWI) books and will be assessed at the end of every term. Children will have new books every Thursday, this will include story books and Bookbags from the RWI programme as well as a picture book of their choice. Please fill in the date, the title of the book and a comment about how your child engaged with the book e.g. if they enjoyed the book. It is helpful to know the types of books they are interested in and if they require further intervention in their reading at school. We make sure everyone can read regularly at school, but it is also highly recommended that regular reading is carried out at home. So, please may you encourage your child to read every day at home; this may be a picture book, comics, magazines or even reading the shopping list! It is also encouraged that your child listens to an adult read. All these activities are incredibly important in developing your child's love of reading.

Homework

Homework books will be sent out on a Thursday. There will be a cover letter inside the homework book providing details about expectations for the completion of homework and information about when the completed homework must be returned to school. I will always endeavour to make sure the children's homework is engaging and that it consolidates learning from the week. Homework is incredibly important as it supports our communication with you about your child's learning and how it can be continued at home. Please ensure homework is completed to the best of your child's ability. If you have any questions about homework, please do not hesitate to contact me.

P.E.

We will be doing P.E. every Tuesday afternoon in school with our specialist PE teacher, John Andrews. Please send your child to school in the correct P.E. kit every Tuesday. Children with pierced ears, need to either remove them for the lesson or cover them with tape such as microporous tape and long hair must be tied up.

Woodland Learning

We are thrilled to be continuing our outdoor learning every Friday afternoon with our Woodland Outdoor Learning specialist, Lisa Bedlow. This will enable the children to continue to explore the outdoors and its environment. Children will need to come dressed in their Woodland clothing on a Friday and need to bring in appropriate waterproofs and wellies in a named rucksack or bag with a water bottle. Children are required to wear long sleeves and trousers for the session due to bugs and bites that may occur in the woods.

Music

Donaldson class will continue to have the fantastic opportunity to have fortnightly music lessons on a Monday with a specialist from the Oxford Music Service. Children will be accessing the National Music Curriculum throughout these sessions.

Contact

I hope this gives you a helpful overview of what to expect this term. If you do have any further questions this term, please do not hesitate to contact me via the class email: donaldson@leafield.oxon.sch.uk. I will endeavour to answer any queries as soon as possible. If you would like a meeting with me, please do contact the school office to arrange this.

I am really looking forward to an exciting term in Donaldson Class and building on what the children have already learnt.

Best wishes,

Letitia Merry
SENCo