

Leaffield C.E. Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you have all had a wonderful and relaxing half term break. It is lovely to see so many smiley faces coming into school in the mornings. We are continuing our topic for this term which is 'Bright Lights, Big City'. This project teaches children about the physical and human characteristics of the United Kingdom, including a detailed exploration of the characteristics and features of the capital city, London. Children will learn about other capital cities around the world, including Kuala Lumpur, and compare how they are similar and different to London. The children will research the cause and impact of the Great Fire of London and will engage in some Art work based on this event as well. In DT, children will be designing and making their own moving London Taxi, using axles and fixing wheels.

In Science, children will be focusing on plants. They will be learning to name a variety of different plants (including deciduous and evergreen trees). They will identify the structure of plants including leaves, flowers (blossom), petals, fruit, roots, bulb, seed, trunk, branches and stem as well as understand the basic needs of plants for water, light and a suitable temperature for them to grow and stay healthy.

In R.E this term the children will be exploring the reasons why people follow Jesus, with reference to the Easter story.

Reading

Children will continue to read their 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, title of the book and how your child enjoyed them as it would be helpful to know the types of books they are interested in and if they require further intervention in their reading at school. Children will be reading daily in our Phonics sessions. We want to make sure that everyone has the opportunity to read regularly at school, but it is also highly recommended that regular reading is carried out at home. So, please 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. If your child has lost or misplaced their reading record that they were given back in September, then please let us know and we will give them a new one. Children will also have time during the week to read topic books and other books from the classroom.

Homework

Homework will be set on a Thursday and due back the following Tuesday. The tasks will vary between Maths, Literacy and Topic work which will support our learning in class. Children will have a Homework Book to take home with them to do their work in. Spellings will also be put into the homework books to practice. Please encourage your child to complete homework to the best of their ability and hand it in on time.



*Let us not love with words or speech but
with actions and in truth. 1 John 3:18*

P.E.

We will be doing P.E. every Tuesday afternoon in school with our external P.E. 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 and long hair must be tied up.

Woodland Learning

We are very excited to be doing Outdoor Learning every Friday afternoon this term 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 Forest School clothing ready on a Friday and 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.

Show and Tell

Show and Tell will be on a Friday. The Show and Tell needs to be topic related or an achievement of some kind, like swimming, football etc.

Music

Donaldson class will continue to have the fantastic opportunity to have fortnightly music lessons every other 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. However, if you do have any further questions throughout this term, please do not hesitate to contact me via email: donaldson@leafield.oxon.sch.uk. I will endeavour to answer any of your queries as soon as possible. Alternatively, if you would like a meeting with me, please do contact the school office to arrange this.

Best wishes

Letitia Merry

Donaldson Class teacher & SENCo