

Leaffield C.E. Primary School

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

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Head Teacher: Mrs Rhiannon Abberley



BE KIND, BE CURIOUS, BE YOU!

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you all managed some family time during half term. The children have returned to school with positivity and smiles. It has been a brilliant first week back, and it is great being back in the classroom with your children. Thank you to all of you that managed to come in for parents' evening; it was really lovely seeing you and discussing your children's achievements.

Roll up, roll up! We've got an exciting term ahead! This Term, Blackman Class we will be studying the 'Scream Machine' project. The children will be learning about the unique sights, smells and sounds of the fair. They will learn about the science behind roller coasters and write poems that are shaped as a loop the loop as well as a persuasive theme park leaflet. The children will design a theme park and show their ideas on their own park map. As part of their DT, children will take part in mini investigations, becoming engineers at 'Scream Towers,' designing and building their own ride for their theme park. They will make a working model and test it out. Okay, class, ready to ride? Don't forget to scream if you want to go faster!

Our novel study 'Pig Heart Boy' by Malorie Blackman. It shows the life of a teenage boy Cameron, and all he wants is a 'normal' life - friends, swimming, school, family. But his life is far from normal. Not every thirteen-year-old desperately needs a new heart because theirs doesn't work properly. Finally, one doctor offers hope. He gets the opportunity to get a new heart but it's not a human heart, it's a pig heart. Cameron could - if he and his parents agree - take part in a radical and controversial procedure involving the transplant of a pig's heart into his human body. It's risky. And it's never been done before . . . While Cameron comes to terms with the idea, he finds the world around him is much less accepting.

In **Science**, the children will learn about mechanisms and forces, developing their knowledge about the properties of materials, pulleys and prototypes. The children will have the opportunity to learn about the forces of gravity, air resistance, water resistance and friction, with the children exploring their effects. They will learn about mechanisms, their uses and how they can allow a smaller effort to have a greater effect.

In **DT**, Blackman class will design a new and exciting theme park ride. They will use their knowledge and learning about mechanisms and forces in science to help them build a model ride. Children will need to include safety features that protect the rider too.

In **R.E**, the children will be learning about Islam. The big question being, 'Why is it important to Muslims that Muhammad is known as the Seal of the prophets? Children will first revisit previous learning of the Muslim faith and then explore the term prophet in the Abrahamic religions. They will explore their own special books and link this to religious special books such as the Qur'an and the Bible. They will explore the significance of Muhammad to Muslims and compare and contrast Sunni and Shia Muslims.

We will also be looking at Christingle and preparing for our KS2 Christmas performance.

In **Computing** this term our topic is Creating Media, Video production. Following the National Centre for Computing Education scheme the unit gives learners the opportunity to learn how to create short videos in groups. As they progress through this unit, they will be exposed to topic-based language and develop the skills of capturing, editing, and manipulating video.

In **Music** this term we will be exploring jazz music and comparing it to our previous term's topic of rock music. The children will have the opportunity to listen to several different jazz piece and the appraise them. We will also be preparing for our KS2 Christmas performance.

HOMEWORK:

Homework will continue to be daily, set on a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. We endeavour to mark the following morning; however, sometimes (due to lessons overrunning) we may end up marking everything at the end of the week. Spellings will take place in class and will not be sent home for learning as we have previously done.

READING:

"Dear children, let's not just say that we love each other; let us also show the truth by our actions."

1 John 3:18 (NLT)

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As always, **daily reading** is an essential part of any child's learning, not only will it develop their language, thus improving their writing, but also it supports children's knowledge and development of punctuation. 15-20 minutes a day is sufficient and perhaps encouraging your children to read as part of their night-time routine would guarantee consistent reading.

PE:

PE continues with P.E on a Tuesday and swimming on a Wednesday. Children should come to school dressed for sports on a Tuesday.

CONTACT:

Mrs Merry works Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Mrs James works in class on Thursday and Friday.

We are always happy to help should you need us.