Leafield C.E. Primary School

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

Tel: 01993 878273
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Web: www.leafield.oxon.sch.uk
Executive Headteacher: Mrs Diane Axford
Assistant Headteacher: Mrs Rhiannon Abberley

Be kind, be curious, be you!

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a lovely half-term break and enjoyed some time together. It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back to Rosen Class for what promises to be a busy and exciting term. With plenty of interesting learning ahead and Christmas just around the corner, there is certainly lots to look forward to!

Below is an overview of what we will be learning this term, along with a few useful reminders.

Topic – Interconnected World

Our new topic, *Interconnected World*, will take us on a journey around the globe as we explore different places and discover how our world is connected.

In Geography, we will be developing our map-reading skills, using compass points and four- and six-figure grid references to locate places accurately. We will also explore the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn and investigate how location influences climate.

Our learning will then take us to North and South America, where we will discover more about the countries, landscapes, climates and cultures of these fascinating continents. Closer to home, we will explore some of the UK's physical features and find out how transport networks, including railways and canals, connect different places.

Literacy and Class Book

In English, our learning will be inspired by the beautiful picture book *The Bear and the Piano* by David Litchfield. This story provides a wonderful opportunity to explore characters, emotions and the importance of friendship and belonging.

Our first writing focus will be narrative writing, with the children creating their own imaginative scenes about Bear discovering something unexpected in the forest. We will then move on to persuasive writing, composing letters from his woodland friends encouraging him to return home.

Throughout the half term, we will continue to develop vocabulary, sentence structure, punctuation and paragraphing, alongside encouraging the children to reread, edit and improve their work.

Our class reading book will be *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* by C. S. Lewis. I am really looking forward to sharing this magical adventure with the class.

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Spellings will continue to follow the Emile spelling scheme.

Mathematics

Year 3 will begin by completing their work on addition and subtraction before moving on to multiplication and division. This will include exploring equal groups, arrays and developing confidence with the 3, 4 and 8 times tables.

Year 4 will focus on multiplication and division, strengthening their recall of multiplication facts up to 12 × 12 and using these to develop their understanding of division.

Across both year groups, our White Rose Maths learning will continue to develop fluency, reasoning and problem-solving skills, with plenty of opportunities to explain mathematical thinking.

Science

Our Science topic this half term is *Sound*. We will investigate how sounds are made, how they travel and how we hear them.

Through practical investigations, the children will explore pitch and volume, discover how different sounds are produced and investigate what happens to sound as we move further away from its source.

Religious Education

Our key question this half term is:

Who do Christians believe Jesus is?

Through our learning, we will explore Christian beliefs about Jesus, including the Incarnation and the Trinity. Using Bible stories and discussion, the children will consider why these beliefs are important to Christians and how they influence Christian life and worship.

Wider Curriculum

In Design and Technology, our unit is *Functional and Fancy Fabrics*. We will explore different fabrics and decorative techniques, taking inspiration from the designs of William Morris before creating our own textile work.

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In Computing, we will be learning about *Audio Production*. This will involve recording and editing sound, with the exciting opportunity to plan and produce our own podcasts.

In PSHE, our unit is *VIPs*. We will explore the importance of positive relationships and friendships, recognising the people who are important to us and developing strategies for managing disagreements and recognising bullying.

In French, our unit is *Je me présente* (Presenting Myself). The children will learn how to introduce themselves, share their age and talk about where they live and their nationality.

In Music, we will be developing our instrumental skills through *Glockenspiel Stage 2*. As Christmas approaches, we will also be learning and practising Christmas carols.

P.E.

P.E. will take place on Fridays at Charlbury Sports Centre. We will travel to the centre after lunch, where Mr Andrews will meet us and lead our sessions. Please ensure your child comes to school wearing their P.E. kit and brings a water bottle on Fridays.

Homework

Homework will continue to be sent home on Fridays and should be returned by the following Wednesday. Activities will be based on learning already covered in class, so your child should be able to complete them independently.

If your child finds something difficult, or life simply gets in the way, please just let me know. Homework should never become a source of worry at home.

Reading and Times Tables

Please continue to encourage your child to read for at least 10 minutes each day. Even as children become more independent readers, regular reading makes such a difference to their fluency, vocabulary, comprehension and confidence. Talking about what they are reading is just as valuable.

Regular times tables practice is also really beneficial. Short, frequent sessions using TT Rock Stars can make a real difference to confidence and recall.

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Snacks, Water Bottles and Belongings

Children are welcome to bring a healthy snack to enjoy during morning break. Please also ensure that your child brings a water bottle to school each day.

As the weather becomes colder, please make sure that coats, jumpers and other belongings are clearly named so that any misplaced items can be returned to their owners.

Keeping in Touch

Please do come and speak to me at the beginning or end of the school day if you have a quick question or there is something you think I need to know.

If you would like a longer conversation, please come and have a chat with me so we can arrange a convenient time to meet.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. I am looking forward to another fantastic half term in Rosen Class, filled with exciting learning, new challenges and, of course, a little Christmas magic along the way!

Kind regards,

Mrs Kelly
Rosen Class Teacher