

Welcome back!

We hope you have all had a wonderful half term holiday and that the children are ready to have lots of fun with their learning over the next few weeks!

This term our topic is 'Special Times Ahead'. We will learn about the celebrations that take place during this season such as Bonfire Night, Diwali, and Christmas and these will link in with our Wonderful Wednesday show and tell sessions. A separate letter will come out to you with details of what we would like the children to bring in each week, but we will start with talking about what we did in the holidays and sharing our photographs on the children's PSPs.

We will also learn about the changes that are happening in the natural environment at this time of year as we move from Autumn to Winter. What happens to the weather and what clothes do we need to wear because of this?

In Literacy we will be sharing the Diwali story of 'Lighting a lamp' and also the story of the Nativity. We will continue to develop our phonic knowledge and in particular we will be learning the phonemes g, c, k, u, b, l and identifying the initial sounds in words.

In maths we will continue to develop the children's knowledge of number through songs, stories and practical activities. In particular we will be focusing on adding groups of objects to find the total and estimating the number of objects in a group. We will also be developing our knowledge of 2D and 3D shapes.

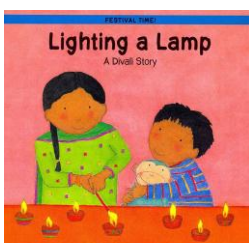
P.E. will take place on a Friday morning and we will focus on gymnastics and learning about the different ways we can balance and roll. We will also be having dance lessons every Tuesday morning.

This half term we will continue to have gardening on a Monday morning. Please can you make sure that your children bring a suitable coat to school on these days - appropriate for the weather.

Our focus for BLP this half term is making links and how we can use our learning across different areas of the curriculum. Foundation will also continue to develop our understanding of the rights of the child by focusing on the right of children to practice their religion (Article 14) and the right for all children to have an education (Article 28).

Thank you in advance for all your support and we look forward to working with you!

The Foundation Team



# What's on: Autumn B

## Year 1 Buttercups



Welcome back, everyone! We start our learning this half term with our “Animals” topic. During this time, we will be learning about animals and their offspring and the basic needs of animals (including humans). We will enjoy reading lovely picture books about animals including, “Dear Zoo”, “A Squash and a Squeeze” and “Monkey Puzzle”. Whilst exploring these books, we will be focusing on developing our vocabulary and answering questions about books we have read.

During these first three weeks, we will also have our Friendship Week where your child will take part in four exciting lessons taught by all of our teachers in Foundation and Key Stage One in issues related to friendship, anti-bullying and respect. This links with UNICEF’s Rights of the Child, in particular Article 19 which states that children “have the right to be protected from being hurt and mistreated, in body or mind”. They will then continue to learn about their rights throughout their learning.

We will then have our DT week where we will be designing and making a moving picture using levers and sliders. Following this, we will have our “Christmas” topic for the final three weeks of term where we will be learning about the story of Christmas and visiting a local church.

During PE this term, the children will be developing their gymnastics skills. PE is every **Thursday**; please ensure your child has the correct PE kit (t-shirt, shorts and pumps) and that everything is named. Also, swimming will take place every **Friday**; please ensure that your child brings in a bag containing a towel and swimming costume/shorts which is all named.

Home learning will be continue to be set on a **Friday** and will need to be returned to school by the following **Wednesday**. Please also ensure to hear your child read their reading book and record this in their yellow reading record. PSPs will continue to be sent home for you to take photographs with your child of your weekend activities so they can present this to their class every Monday. Spellings are also very important and will continue to be sent home each week to practise.

We look forward to this term and thank you for all of your continued support.

Miss Firstbrook, Mrs Shuck-Poutney and Miss Slade



Welcome back!

We hope you have all had a wonderful half term holiday and that the children are ready to have lots of fun with their learning over the next few weeks!

This term we are continuing our topic on animals in Science. We will start by learning about different categories of animal, such as herbivores, carnivores and omnivores. We will think about the passage of time and how the seasons affect animals in the wild. We will also be talking about how we care for pets.

In Maths we will be learning to order the days of the week and develop our use of positional language (on, in, under, next to etc.). The children will continue to improve their counting, addition and subtraction knowledge through regular practise.

In English we will use stories to help children with their reading and writing. Books covered this half term include *Where's My Teddy*, *My Friend Bear* and *Can't you Sleep Little Bear*. Please can you support your child with regular reading at home? We will be having phonics lessons and Big Writing opportunities every week.

In R.E. our focus is on the importance of light for different religions. Beginning with Diwali, we shall also be discussing Hanukkah, Advent and Christmas. PSHE will have a focus on how to be a good friend, including a Friendship Week, when the children will work in mixed- aged classes during the afternoons.

P.E. will take place on a Thursday morning and we will focus on gymnastics and learning about the different ways we can balance and roll. We will also be having dance lessons every Tuesday morning.

Home work will be set every Friday to be returned by the following Thursday. Thank you in advance for all your support and we look forward to working with you!

Year 2 Team.



# What's on: Autumn B

## Year 3 Freesias.



I hope you all had a lovely October half term and enjoyed both Halloween and bonfire night. This half term, Freesias will be learning about the Mayan Civilisation as an extension of our 'Down in the Jungle' topic. This will be the focus for history and we will also be constructing our own Mayan settlements and using clay to design an ancient bowl in art.

As for English, we will be looking at the books 'Pumpkin soup' and 'The Chronicles of Narnia', as well as poetry in the run up to Christmas. In Maths we will be learning about 2D and 3D shapes, their names and properties as well as learning about position and direction. In science, we will be continuing our topic of animals and their habitats.

In Computing, we will be continuing to, compare old and new technology and learning how to stay safe online. This will be mirrored in PSHE, where we will be learning how to keep ourselves, friends and family safe at home and out in the community. Additionally, we will have Friendship week where we will focus upon the importance of respect and how to be respectful. In both of these subjects we will be developing our knowledge of the rights Respecting articles.

This half term, we will be increasing our flexibility, balance and strength within gymnastics in our Monday PE sessions. You can support your child by reading with them regularly and encouraging them to complete their Home Learning. Home Learning will be sent home in an exercise book on Fridays and should be handed in by the following Wednesday.





# What's On: Autumn B 2018

## Year 4 Snapdragons

Snapdragon class has an exciting half term ahead!

We will be continuing with our learning journey topic of the rainforest: this half term we will be focusing on the history aspect by studying the Mayan civilisation. We will discover how Mayan people measured time, how they greeted their guests with spicy hot chocolate and even how they played football! We will also take part in art activities and a design and technology project inspired by the Mayans.

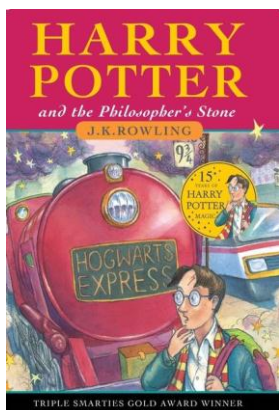
Our shared story for this half term will be *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*. Miss Parker and Mrs Clarke will read/sign to the children from this book 2-3 times a week. Children will be encouraged to make predictions, discuss the plot, setting and characters and infer information from what is read to them. Later in the half term they will have the chance to write two pieces of independent writing based on this story. Other topics in our English lessons will be Winter-themed: *The Nutcracker*, *The Chronicles of Narnia* and non-rhyming Christmas poetry (shape and acrostic poems).

In science we will be continuing with the topic of animals and their habitats. The children developed their understanding of classification last half term and will now move on to looking at food chains and predator-prey relationships. We will also think about how and why some animals hibernate. Our areas of focus for maths will be position and direction, measuring capacity and volume, and multiplication. As always, we will also continue to build on the key number skills and understanding of quantity which underpin all of mathematics. This will also enable us to practise our BLP focus - making links (resourcefulness).

In RE lessons we will continue to study aspects of Judaism and will also look at how people use creativity to express their religious beliefs. Our PSHE topic for Autumn B will be 'keeping safe' and will include work on safety in the home, road safety, fire safety and stranger danger. This focus on personal safety will link well with e-safety activities in computing lessons and our understanding of Article 16 of the UNCRC: the right to privacy.

In PE the children will practise their gymnastics skills in preparation for the gymnastics festival in December. PE will continue to be taught on a Monday afternoon - please make sure your child has a full PE kit in school.

Thank you for your continued support - we are looking forward to the weeks ahead!



Welcome back to Year 5 Tulips and Sunflowers! We hope that the children have had a lovely half term break and are ready for an exciting and busy half term in school.

In English we will be looking at instructions. We will be learning about the key features of instructions, before following instructions and using what we have learnt to write our own.

In maths we will be focussing on time, please encourage the children to take note of times in the day, dinner time, when their favourite T.V. programmes are on and bed times. Getting them to look at the clock will really help with their learning of telling the time.

Year 5 are being taught music by Gemma from Birmingham Music Service we will be singing and signing a range of songs using props and instruments. We will also be learning about body percussion

Learning journey will focus on the growth of Birmingham from the 1800s to the present day. We will be learning about how the village of Bournville developed due to the building of the Cadbury factory and how that supported the development of the railway and canal systems. We will also be visiting the local area to see for ourselves how it has developed.

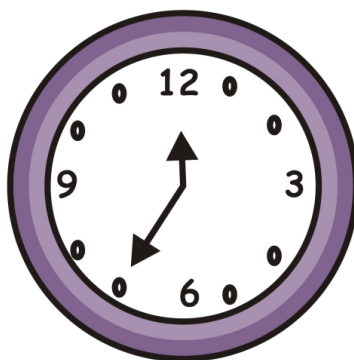
PE is every Tuesday; please ensure your child has the correct PE kit (t-shirt, shorts and pumps) and that it is named. This half term we will be focussing Gymnastics in preparation for our Gymnastics festival in December. Swimming continues to be every Friday, so please send in a named towel and swimsuit, in a bag.

Our BLP focus will be making links which will help us to use our prior knowledge and link ideas together. We will be continuing to look at UNICEF charter of children's rights and will be making links with the curriculum.

Home learning will be set on a Friday and needs to be returned to school the following Wednesday. Please encourage your children to read with you and record in their yellow reading books

Thank you for your continued support!

Miss Sheppard, Miss Russell, Mrs Boyce, Mr Belton, Miss Walton and Miss Amir



Welcome back to what is always a busy and exciting half term!

In Y6, the poppy symbols that we have in the classroom because of our class name take on a special significance for us in the first week back as we prepare for the Remembrance Service to commemorate 100 years since the end of the First World War. In the second week, the whole school is focusing on what friendship means and, in English, we will be looking at the story called 'Lost and Found' by Oliver Jeffers where a young boy finds a lonely penguin and they become good friends. We then continue with a study of traditional tales such as Red Riding Hood and Beauty and the Beast to draw out their important themes. Please find out which story your child is learning about and encourage him or her to retell it to you because this is something I will be assessing as part of this topic.

We are looking forward to having a visitor from a bank help us think about the value and meaning of money – vital understanding for our pupils as they prepare for transition and become more independent. We shall be supporting this by improving our money skills in Maths lessons

We continue our study of the environment and of Birmingham in particular by learning about George Cadbury's vision of creating happy and healthy surroundings for his employees. To help us in our understanding, we will be visiting Bournville to experience for ourselves the village built by the Cadbury brothers over a hundred years ago. In Science, we will be learning how plants and animals are classified. In RE, we shall again learn about both Christian and Buddhist beliefs with a particular emphasis on how light is important in these religions, particularly as we prepare for the Christian festival of Christmas.

We shall be doing gymnastics in PE every Tuesday in preparation for a gymnastics festival in December. Home Learning will be given every Friday to be handed in on Monday. Please do continue to support your child with their Home Learning, especially with their reading and spellings.

