

America Class Newsletter

Happy New Year to everyone. I hope you all enjoyed a lovely Christmas break and welcome back to a new term.

Curriculum

English - This half term the children will be studying Macbeth by William Shakespeare. We will be looking at the plot of the play, the characters and the relationships between them. We will analyse parts of the text in focussed reading sessions and use the information we find out about the characters to write letters, arguments and descriptions. We will look at modern and traditional versions of the play.

Maths - We will begin by looking at position and direction, in particular translation and reflection and the revision of our previous co-ordinates knowledge. We will then move onto decimals and percentages.

Topic - This half term we have a geography topic about the United Kingdom. We will look at the areas that make up the United Kingdom and major cities. We will think about different regions and counties and also mountains, rivers and coastlines. This will improve our knowledge of the place we live and help us develop our map skills.

Computing - Using Purple Mash we will be looking at 3D modelling.

RE - "What does it mean if God is Holy and Loving?" We will be exploring what Christians seek in a being worthy of becoming a God and how this is reflected in the way they worship, for example through the architecture of places of worship.

Science - Electricity. The children will build on previous knowledge of electricity and conduct investigations based on their own theories.

French - Sports and pastimes. We will be improving our vocabulary, expressing our opinions and building up sentences using the correct French vocabulary.

PE - Yoga to improve flexibility and mental health and dance where the children will be using the traditional Maori dance the Haka to develop their own routines where they work in unison. Kits will be needed in school on Wednesday and Friday. Long hair should be tied back and I would encourage the children not to wear earrings on PE days.

Music - Singing and performing

Art and Design - British Art. We will be looking at classic and modern British art and studying a variety of artists and discussing their work. We will take this as inspiration to create our own pieces using a variety of media.

PSHE - Money and how it affects us and makes us feel.

Homework

Please continue to listen to your child read three times a week and sign their reading record each time. It really does make a difference to their understanding of the text. To help the children to be more prepared for their SATs tests in the summer, and in readiness for more homework at High School, the children are now getting maths homework on a Tuesday to be handed in the following Monday. There is a letter explaining this in their homework folder. A letter has also been sent out with a password from SPAG.com where tasks will be set to consolidate their understanding of punctuation and grammar terms.

Visitors in school

In February we have two sets of visitors in school to work with the children. We are holding a full day's careers event where the children will learn skills that are vital for the world of work and complete tasks as part of a team. We also have the Newcastle University STEM outreach service visiting school to lead workshops for the children so they can find out more about science and scientists.

Hawse End

If your child has not signed up for the residential in June, it is not too late. Please come and see me if they would like to go.

Dates for your diary

Parent consultations - **Monday 10th February** after school and the morning of **Tuesday 11th February**.

Class Worship - **Wednesday 18th March**

Thank you for your continued support.

Rebecca Hedley