

# Mexico 1 & 2 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,  
Welcome back and we hope you had a good break.

## Curriculum

Topic - Our topic this term is Crime and Punishment. We will discuss and compare some of the key facts about punishments that were used during the Roman, Anglo Saxon, Tudor and Victorian times. We will be introduced to key terms in the history of crime and punishment such as wergild, trial by ordeal, tithings, hue and cry, treason, transportation and hard labour. We will also find out about the life of the highwayman Dick Turpin. We will compare modern day crime and punishments with those from the past.

D&T - Pinatas - designing and making a Pinata using papier maché. Cooking Mexican themed food using a range of cooking skills and practising food safety and hygiene.

RE - We will continue learning about Muslim Festivals before moving on to our Christmas unit of work on Christmas Journeys. In this unit we will look at the journeys made by Mary and Joseph, the Shepherds and the Wise Men at the time of the Nativity. We will explore why these journeys were important to each of the groups and why Christians remember them at Christmas, including why some Christians go on pilgrimages.

PE - Swimming and Rugby. Key Stage 2 will continue to swim this term until Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December. If your child had a Dance Fit session last half term they will have Freestyle Gymnastics this half term and vice versa.

A Rugby Coach from Cramlington Rockets will be working with the children on a Tuesday this half term and we will be outside for as many sessions as possible. The children will learn transferable skills necessary to play team sports. Please ensure your child has full outdoor P.E kit, including outdoor shoes and a carrier bag in which to put muddy shoes at the end of the session if necessary.

Music - Classroom Jazz - A unit of work listening to and appraising Jazz music discussing the style and improvising with the tune to make up a new melody. This will be followed by learning and performing songs for our Christmas performance.

Maths - Addition and Subtraction - We will be looking at addition and subtraction using a variety of methods including bar modelling, part-part whole and concrete apparatus thereby applying the skills learnt in place value. The children will also be using the traditional method of column addition and subtraction including setting out calculations correctly. We will continue to work on problem solving and visualising problems using pictorial representations.

Literacy - Writing tasks will enable children to apply skills learnt in their Basic Skills lessons and will use the features identified in each genre they cover over the term. The children will be practising Slow Writes, where we unpick the writing process step by step looking at interesting ways of writing sentences.

Mexico 1 - Reading and writing linked to our class book The Hodgeheg by Dick King-Smith.

Mexico 2 - Reading and writing will be based on the Russian Traditional Tale of The Firebird.

PSHE - Getting On and Falling Out followed by Say No to Bullying.

Computers - Internet Safety - the children will understand the importance of online security and keeping their passwords and personal information safe.

## Homework

Our Homework will continue to be practising Times Tables on Rock Stars, spellings and reading 3 times a week. Please make sure children have their homework book in school on a Tuesday and please check which spellings your child has not retained so they can continue to practise.

## Class Worship

Our Class Worship will be on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November at 9.15 - we look forward to seeing you there.

Many Thanks

Nicola Foy and Heather Mortimer.