



# Hedgehogs Class Newsletter Term 3

Happy New Year to you all!

I hope you have been able to enjoy a rest and some time with family and friends.

Below I have outlined the key areas we will be covering in each of the curriculum subjects, as well as diary dates and a reminder on home learning.

If you have any queries or questions about any of the below, please feel free to find me before or after school.

Best wishes,

Mrs Wells and Miss Jarman

## Diary Dates

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January - Year 5 Money Matters Course with the Family Trust

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January - Young Voices at the O2

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January - Start of British Values week

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February - Start of Children's Mental Health week

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February - Safer internet day

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February - End of term 3

*Please keep an eye on the weekly newsletter for other key dates.*

## Topics Overview

**English** - This term we will be starting to read a new book called, 'Orphans of the Tide'. This adventure story uses lots of flashbacks and diary entries that the children will learn from and imitate Struan Murray's style of writing. We will then have fun creating our own inventions and using them in our own adventure stories. If any of your children have copies of this book, please encourage them to bring them into class.

**Maths** - For the first few days of the new term, we will be revisiting year 4 work on perimeter and area. Then our focus will be the relationship between fractions, decimals and percentages. The children will start looking at equivalent fractions, mixed numbers and improper fractions. This will lead them to begin adding and subtracting fractions before they delve further into decimals and percentages. Many opportunities for problem solving and reasoning will be given, as usual, throughout the term.

**Science** - Our first session discusses the changes in the human body from childhood to adulthood to old age. We will also discuss the physical signs of ageing. We will then remind ourselves about healthy eating and complete experiments about the effect of exercise on the heartbeat. For the remainder of the term, we will be learning about light, the moon and the Earth and electricity.

**R.E** - Our topic for this term is 'What would Jesus do? Can we live by the values of Jesus in the 21<sup>st</sup> century?' We will consider examples of what Jesus said, and how Christians today respond to the challenges of his teachings. RE will be taught by Mrs Cottenden on a Thursday afternoon.

**P.E** - PE days will remain the same this term on **Monday** and **Tuesday** afternoons. This will be handball, wake and shake and the large apparatus. Please ensure that your child wears appropriate PE kit to school on these days and that long hair is tied back.

**Computing** - This term the children will plan and create their own mini-game. They will look at different software (in particular 'Scratch' and Purple Mash), and will have to consider how to use the features effectively.

**Art** - This term's theme is 'portraits'. The children will be practising their sketching skills by learning how to draw self-portraits and their side profiles. We will have fun playing 'Guess Who?' to see the accuracy of their drawings!

**History/Geography** - We will be studying rivers this term. The children will learn about the water cycle; the features of rivers; about how they erode, transport and deposit materials; find out why rivers are important; about the causes of river pollution and the effect it has on the environment.

**PSHE** - This term the children will focus on developing their understanding of money including budgeting. We will have two visits from Family Trust, who have visited us for collective worship in the past, to carry out workshops based around money and being money wise.

**French**- This term we will be looking at a unit called, 'En Route Pour l'Ecole'. The purpose of this unit is to teach simple directions and familiar landmarks in a town.

## Home Learning

As well as spelling and reading, please encourage your child to complete their Maths Shed homework each week. I set different times tables or extra work following our lessons in class. It is vital that they practise their times tables to support their learning in other areas of the maths curriculum.

**Optional additional home learning**

Our humanities topic this term is about rivers. If you wish, the children may do some additional research about the worlds' rivers. They could then create a poster or an information leaflet. If they are feeling creative, they could draw a picture or make a model showing the different features of a river or about the water cycle. Please encourage your child to bring in any additional work from home- I'd love to see it!