



Picasso Class Newsletter

Terms 1 & 2 2016

Welcome back! I hope you all had a fantastic summer and I am sure you are now ready to start the new school year. I am very excited to start this year with you and I hope it will provide your child with amazing challenges and opportunities to progress and show their potential.

Our topic this term is 'Explore, Uncover, Discover'; in term 1, we will be learning about the Stone Age and in term 2, we will be learning about Ancient Egypt. Outlined is what Picasso will be learning during terms 1 and 2:

- **History** - We are focussing on history in term one and will be using a variety of sources for historical enquiry in order to gain a more accurate understanding of Stone Age history. We will be finding out about the changes in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age.
- **Design Technology** - We will be using design and technology to discover more about the Stone Age. This will involve designing and making our own Stone Age tools and developing our wood work abilities, using levers and pulleys to make traps.
- **Geography** - We are focussing on geography in term 2 and will be finding out about the achievements of the early civilisation of Ancient Egypt. We will be discovering and describing key aspects of human and physical geography. Maps, atlases and globes will be our key tools in finding and describing features of the Egyptian landscape.
- **Art and Design** - Art will be a focus in term 2 and we will be working on our ability to select and arrange materials in order to make our own papyrus. We will also be designing wall paintings with hieroglyphs, making a clay mummy and using the outside environment to create our own natural paint!
- **ICT** - We are developing our understanding of computer programming. The children will be using programmes such as 'Scratch' and 'Pivot' in order to create their own animation and build up to making their own computer game.
- **RE** - Our topic this term is Judaism; we will be learning about the addition of a new baby into a Jewish family and will follow the life of a Jewish person in order to learn about the rites of passage that they will go through.
- **Literacy** - There's a touch of magic and mystery in Picasso Class this term as we are studying 'The Nowhere Emporium'. We are using this book to inspire our writing and develop our understanding of a range of writing styles. The children will be increasing their ability to write at length, in a range of different styles, both fiction and non-fiction. We will develop the children's knowledge of spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG) within these sessions, our timetabled SPaG lessons and throughout the day.
- **Numeracy** - We are starting off looking at place value and the number system. The children will be exploring numbers in their millions! They will be finding bonds to a million, counting in powers of up to one hundred thousand, creating and solving number sequences and solving problems and investigations. We will be working on the children's

ability to explain an answer, discuss the steps they took to solve a problem, communicate as to why an answer is wrong and independently find a range of solutions. We will also be assessing and working on the children's use of the four operations and their times tables.

- **Science** - Our topic this term is 'Animals Including Humans' we will be looking at life cycles, habitats and food chains to discover more about the life around us.
- **PSHE** - We will be looking at goals this term - thinking about the type of person you want to be, setting targets and finding ways to achieve our dreams
- **PE** - Mr Sapp and Mr Juden will be teaching year 5 PE. PE will be taught on a Wednesday and Thursday morning, please ensure children have their correct PE kit in on these days. Hair should be tied back and earrings should be taken out.

Home learning: Every Friday, your child will be set one piece of mathematics home learning and another piece of literacy home learning. The literacy will differ between written tasks such as a creative writing piece and spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG) work. Homework will be due in on a Wednesday and we are expecting all homework to be timely.

Spellings: As well as maths and literacy home learning, your child will also receive a spelling task. Each week we will learn a new spelling rule; your child will be sent home with a description of this rule and some example words. The children will have to learn the rule and see if they can find any other words that fit into it. This will help the children to spell a variety of words, as they will understand how the rule works instead of just learning a selection of words.

Times tables: You will receive a note in your child's contact book informing you as to what times table they are working on. It would be much appreciated if you could help your child learn these at home. They will be tested on a Wednesday afternoon.

Reading: It is expected that your child reads once every day even for just a short period of time, this can be independent reading but it would be great if they could read out loud to you within the week in order to develop their ability to answer questions and discuss a text.

Dates for your diary!		
Sept	30	Harvest Festival (NEW) 2pm church
Oct	19	Parent's Evening 3.40 -6.00 p.m
	20	Parent's Evening 5.00 -7.30 p.m
	21	INSET DAY(no children) / End of Term 1
	31	Term 2 begins
	14 - 18	Anti Bullying Week

If you have any questions or queries regarding any of the information in this newsletter, or any other concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me!

Best Wishes,

Miss Miller