



# Monet Class Newsletter

## September 2017



Welcome back! I hope you have had a lovely time over the Summer Break and I am sure you are now ready to start the new school year.

I am looking forward to getting to know you all and working together in what I hope will be a productive and exciting year. I hope your child enjoys the new challenges and approaches to learning that year 5 brings.

Our timetable in Monet class will not seem too dissimilar to those you have already seen in previous years; Mr Sapp will be taking the class for PE once a week and Mrs Brincat will be teaching French on a Wednesday afternoon. PE will be on a Tuesday and a Wednesday this year. Mrs Witherden will also be teaching the class music on a Monday afternoon.

With the ambition of working in partnership with you to support the progression of your child's learning throughout the year the following provides a brief outline of the teaching and learning that will take place within terms 1 and 2 surrounding our overall topic of 'Home Sweet Home'. We will be incorporating as many areas of the curriculum as possible into this, so here is a brief outline of this term's learning:

- **Literacy**- Our literacy lessons this year will follow a particular scheme where each term we will focus on a different book. We will be studying the text in a particular sequence so I ask that this text is not purchased to be read at home, ensuring all pupils are at the same stage in the story that is relevant to their learning. Our first book will be 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' by Roald Dahl. Our main focus this term will be the use of descriptive and specifically chosen vocabulary within writing, speaking and listening skills, punctuation and exploring texts and characters with an in-depth and critical eye.
- **Numeracy**-We begin the year consolidating the use of the place value (up to 5 digit numbers) to aid progression throughout the other topics in mathematics, as well as moving forward with place value through the use of decimals and money. We will also be looking at formal methods of subtraction, addition, multiplication and division, and using measures to support our use of decimal numbers within the four operations. There will also be a greater focus on reasoning and problem solving to keep in line with the National Curriculum.
- **Science**- In science this term we will be focusing on Earth and Space. Within this topic we will be learning about gravity, the planets, moon phases and tides, day, night and seasons. After space we will be looking at properties and changes of materials.
- **Topic**- As previously mentioned our topic theme is 'Home Sweet Home'. This will form the basis for our afternoon work in geography, history, art and DT. Computing will be used to enhance learning within this subject area but will also be taught separately so that computer programming can be taught in accordance with the new curriculum.

- **RE-** From September 2017 Religious Education (RE) will be following the Kent Agreed Syllabus (KAS) which incorporates the new resource "Understanding Christianity". Each unit has a key question which is developed over a school term. Key questions are also being developed for other faiths that are part of the KAS. In Terms 1 and 2 our key questions to explore are:

What does it mean if God is loving and holy? (Christianity)  
Was Jesus the Messiah?

#### HOME LEARNING-

The children will be set a piece of numeracy and literacy homework each week. The homework will be set on Friday to be completed by the following Wednesday. Home learning will be reviewed frequently to ensure consistency. If homework is not completed children will need to attend homework club.

**Reading:** As always, your support of the school will be truly valued and I ask that you read at least 15 minutes a night with your child. Reading a variety of texts within year 5 is extremely beneficial. Choosing different books can sometimes be difficult so please do not hesitate to discuss this with me. I am more than happy to help provide books, so your child can always ask for a book they would like to take home, as long as they are brought in every day. Your child will also have been given a contact book. The main purpose of this book is for you and your child to record their nightly reading (Name of Book, author, pages read). However, it may be used to write book reviews, comments about the book and any non-vital information that may need to be passed to the school.

**Spellings:** Each week the children will have a spelling test. The children will be given a set of spellings to learn each week and then on a Tuesday they will be tested on them, they will then be given a new set of spellings to learn for the next week.

**Numeracy:** The children will undertake a times table test weekly. They will be required to practice the times tables ready to take a test each Thursday. The times table test will involve a mix of times tables from the 2 to the 12 times table. As the year progresses we will move on to completing mental arithmetic tests instead.

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.

Kind regards, Mrs Spencer.