



PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

No 30– 10th January 2020

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



Welcome back, everyone! I hope that you all had a lovely Christmas and New Year. The children have come back to school beautifully!

FRIDAY READERS RECEPTION, YEAR 1 & YEAR 2....

This is just a reminder that Friday readers will begin again for Reception, Y1 & Y2 from 2.45pm on Friday 17th January 2020.

...AND A REMINDER OF FRIDAY READERS KS2....NEW FOR 2020!

Just a reminder that this year we will open **all of** school from 2.45pm on the **final Friday in every month** for a giant Friday readers. Our first session will be on Friday 31st January. If you are available, please do come in and share a book with your child.

VALUES

Our value this term is 'Aspiration', so our children will be making their aspiration butterflies again!

TODDLER & ADULT BOOKS FOR THE PHONE BOX

If you have any good quality adult and **young** toddler books that you could donate to our community book swap phone box, it would be much appreciated! Please bring them into the office, and we will start stocking the phone box. Thank you!



THIS TERM'S CURRICULUM

Here is a roundup of the creative curriculum ahead for your children!

RECEPTION - SUPERHEROES



This term our new topic is “SUPERHEROES”. Throughout the term the children will be having a range of visits from 'real life superheroes' such as a doctor, a police officer, a pilot, a banker and a guide dog trainer. On our final day of term the children will have the opportunity to dress up as their role model and discuss with their peers and teachers what career they think they would like to have when they grow up!

Throughout the term we will be encouraging children to explore different job roles through role play, such as a vet's surgery, doctor's practice and much more, discussing lots of different ways we can help each other and how other people around us in our communities help us every day!

YEAR ONE – VICTORIANS



This term in Year One we will be learning all about life during the Victoria era. The children have already started investigating the life and times of Queen Victoria as well as compiling a timeline of her reign as our Monarch. We'll be carefully examining how life has changed for children over the last 200 years and how compulsory schooling was gradually introduced as opposed to sweeping chimneys and working in the workhouse from such a young age!

Over the coming weeks we'll take a closer look at how life progressed and evolved for everyone in Great Britain with the invention of the steam train, telephone, gramophone



and camera. Through Art, we'll take a look at artists such as William Morris and the significance of portraits and silhouettes. Finally we'll explore and investigate the difference between our own toys today and those that were available in the 1800's.

On Friday 14th February, we will be celebrating our topic by inviting all the children to come to school dressed as if they were from the Victorian era. We will also be basing our second creative homework project around our own history and creating a timeline of our own. More details of these events will follow from your class teacher.

YEAR TWO - THE ENGLISH CIVIL WAR, CHARLES II & THE GREAT FIRE OF LONDON



Year 2 are going back to the 1600s over the next 2 terms! We will learn about the Monarchs within this period of time and key events that happened during their reign, including the Civil War and learning about King Charles II. We look forward to immersing ourselves by taking a step back in history through drama, debates and mock battles. We hope to create a diverse range of "Living in History" moments whereby the children will feel as if they are in this time period!

After this, we will be learning about one of the most famous events in that period: the Great Fire of London! We will look at a variety of sources that explore this event which will allow for us to gain greater understanding of the events that occurred, how the fire spread, the impact it had on London and key landmarks and how it was put to an end. The children will enjoy making and tasting bread, learn about the fire service with (hopefully) a visit from the local station and step into the shoes of Samuel Pepys.

To conclude the topic we will put on an exhibition of art work alongside displays of all of the knowledge we have acquired for you to enjoy.

YEAR THREE – THE CONQUERORS



The Year 3 curriculum topic for these next two terms is called, 'The Conquerors'. Children will learn about the beginnings of The Roman Empire and how it affected Britain. They will find out about why the Romans wanted to invade Britain and will explore the everyday lives of Roman people. After the Romans, we will leap on a few years to the invasion of the Vikings. We have booked an immersive 'Viking Day' to kick start the topic, which will involve drama activities about the battles, Viking gods and Viking funerals. Work will continue in class, focusing on the invasion and settlement of the Viking people.

YEAR FOUR – ANCIENT CIVILISATIONS



This term, in Year 4, we will be going back in time to the Ancient Civilisations and exploring life in Ancient Egypt. We will be learning all about this fascinating period in history including researching the importance of the River Nile to finding out about Egypt's most famous Pharaohs. The children will take part in lots of practical activities to immerse themselves into this period in time including the mummification process, making our own paper and writing in hieroglyphics as well as discovering the content of Tutankhamun's tomb!

As we go forward into Term 4, we will then move onto the Mayans, and compare and contrast their lives, beliefs and architecture with those of the Egyptians.



YEAR FIVE – MISSION TO MARS



Year 5's topic this term is 'Mission to Mars'! During this topic, the children will be jetting off to space to explore our universe. After finding out all about our Solar System, the specifics of the planets and their orbits, and understanding the vastness of space, we will be investigating whether humans could move to space and why we might need to.

Year 5 will become experts on Mars and future space travel and tourism – culminating next term in creating a full advertising project that would persuade people to move to Mars!

YEAR SIX – VIETNAM & THE 60S



Throughout Terms 3 and 4, Year 6's Creative Curriculum will focus on the very exciting topic of the Vietnam War and the Sixties. In Term 3, children will study the causes of the war and learn key facts within the wider background of the Cold War. They will investigate the geography of the country, finding information about the major cities and reasons for the political division of North and South of the country during the period of war. They will find out explore the timeline from 1955 -1975, finding out about key political figures on all sides of the conflict. They will gain an understanding of the



horrific sufferings endured by both civilians and soldiers, including the hostile terrains in which war was fought.

Term 4's work will focus on anti-war protest movements, where children will learn about the change in mood of the US public and reasons for opposition of the conflict. Through art and music, they will explore the rise of movements supporting love and peace, with our unit in a week of psychedelic type Art of the 60s and 70s. This topic will give children a great opportunity to understand the feelings behind many events in the world today, and understand the power of music and art in working for a peaceful world.

WELLBEING



Our wellbeing focus this term is 'Connect.' It has been proven that building solid and varied connections in your life can increase your feelings of happiness and self-worth, so during our wellbeing sessions, we will be focusing on the following areas:

- Connecting with others around us.
- Building and strengthening relationships.
- Spending quality time with your friends and family.
- Making new friends.
- Using different ways to communicate.

We have set a challenge this week in assembly (with a focus on communication) to begin and hold a conversation. We look forward to hearing if they have tried this at home!

PARKING

This morning, the road was particularly busy outside of school, with 3 coaches finding it difficult to move around each other. To ensure the flow of traffic, please can you make sure that you park considerately. In particular, please do not park in the bus stops or on



the zigzag lines as parking in these areas may result in police fines, and endanger our children.

Dates for your diary:

Parent Workshops:

Reception & Year 1 Phonics – **Tuesday 28th January 6pm**

KS1 – Maths - Calculation Methods – **Tuesday 28th January 6.30 pm**

KS2 – Maths - Fraction Calculations– **Tuesday 4th Feb 6pm**

KS2 – SPAG – **Tuesday 4th Feb – 6.45pm**

Y2 SATS Briefing- **12th February – 6pm**

Y4 Times Tables Test Briefing- **12th February – 6.30pm**

Y6 SATS Briefing - **12th February – 7pm**

Other dates:

Friends of Parklands Film Night – **Thursday 13th February**

Y1 Victorian Celebration Day - Friday 14th February

Have a fantastic weekend!

Here are a few images from the week:



Real life superheroes in Reception:



Camp fire in Y1:





Year 5 and Year 1 'connecting' with a story:



Busy crime scene investigators in Y4:

