



PARKLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL
PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER
Friday 26th February 2021



NEW TERM!

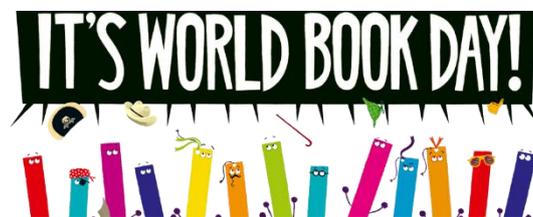
What another whirlwind start to the term it has been, it certainly does feel as though brighter days are coming and we simply cannot wait to welcome all of our amazing children back to school! You should have received information this week about our plans to reopen to all children from Monday 8th March. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the school office.

VALUES

This term's school value is 'Perseverance'. I am sure you can all agree, after everything all of our children have faced in the past year, they have all shown amazing positivity and perseverance. This term, we will look at what Perseverance is and what it means through assemblies and PSHE sessions.

"The best versions of ourselves do not come when everything is amazing - the best versions of ourselves come out in the midst of a trial. Because that is where we grow". This feels like a very fitting value of the term and we continue to adapt to the changes that life throws at us and the rapidly changing impact on education.

WORLD BOOK DAY



On Thursday 4th March, we will celebrate World Book Day, 2021. The theme this year is **Share a story** and the children are invited to come to school/virtually dressed as one of their favourite book characters.

At the usual 08:45am Zoom drop-in, we invite all children to tune in to showcase their wonderful outfit and to kick-start their day of reading with their teacher.



Throughout all of next week's English lessons, the children will focus on a specific author and be exposed to new texts and reading/writing opportunities. During World Book Day, the children will be exploring the author further, perhaps enjoying illustration, drama or audiobooks – all wonderful experiences within reading.

Snap your reading!

The children are encouraged to send in via Seesaw as many photos of themselves reading in weird and wonderful places on World Book Day. The winner in each class will be awarded a book to enjoy at home.

Share a story live events

The children will also be invited on 3rd, 4th and 5th March to join the live 'Share your story' events where authors answer questions that the children were invited to submit before half term.

World Book Day tokens

For World Book Day 2021, the £1 book tokens to children are being offered in a digital version. Please click the link below to register.

<https://www.worldbookday.com/digital-book-token/>

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible - whether it be on Zoom or in school - to celebrate World Book Day.

CURRICULUM

We are so looking forward to welcoming our children back into class and look forward to once again, bringing our learning to life...without the limitations of remote learning! These are the topics that the children will be learning about this term, although some of this will take place remotely we are very excited to be able to deliver lots of exciting lessons on these fabulous topics once the children return to school!

Reception

In Reception this term our topic is Space! We will be exploring Space throughout all of our provision and topic learning, as well as theming our Maths and English. For English we will be using the text 'Alien's love underpants' and 'Aliens in underpants save the world'. In Maths we will be focusing on number and calculation to reintroduce the children back to their learning using space rocks, stars and aliens! Lots of our learning will be focused





on ensuring the children are settling back in and have lots of social activities with a wellbeing focus! We can't wait for the children to be back in with us!

Year 1



Year 1's topic for this term is Paws, Claws and Whiskers. It gives us the purrrr-fect opportunity to explore different types of animals including: what they are called, what they like to eat, their habitats and what group they belong to. There will be lots of links to Science including describing and comparing the structures of different animals, sorting them into groups and classifying animals based on what they eat. They will also have the chance to complete some lovely artwork during Forest School sessions and in the classroom on their return to school too. The art focus being on using a range of textures, medium and techniques. We also hope to be able to bring the topic to life with some real-life experiences albeit through the use of a camera lens at this stage.

Year 2

This term's topic has a science focus so we will be putting our science goggles on to explore the growth, changes and development of animals and plants; from seeds to flowers and babies to adults. We'll be carrying out our research through observations, experiments and comparisons.

We will learn about what nutrition is needed to help animals and plants grow healthily, thinking about how and why these may not always be the same.

We will get our lab coats on to investigate the amount of sugar in fizzy drinks and report our findings to the public in an interesting newspaper article and TV news report! After we have concluded our findings, we will explore which foods are best for our bodies and help humans grow to be healthy. Following this, we hope to make a delicious meal and drink that demonstrates our findings.





Year 3



This half term, Year 3 will be continuing with *The Conquerors*, with a focus on the Vikings. The children will be learning how to place historical events on a timeline and understand how the Vikings fit into our History. They will find out why and how the Vikings invaded Britain and how they took over parts of Britain.

The children will also be using their creative skills to make models of longships, which were a vital part of how the Vikings travelled.

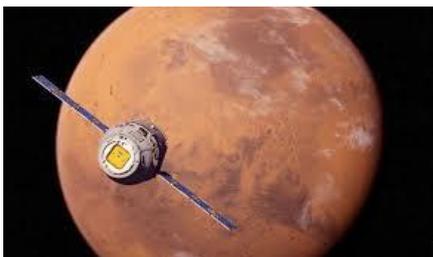
Year 4

This term, in Year 4, we will continue to go back in time to study the Ancient Civilisations, moving from the Ancient Egyptians on to the Mayas and exploring life during this period in history. We will be learning all about this fascinating period specifically focusing on key historical dates and events of this era, learning how the Mayan calendar was created and used, and



identifying who the Mayans God were. In addition to this, we will utilise the VR Headsets to investigate the architectural features of the city of Chichen Itza as if we were actually there. As the Ancient Maya used sculpture, carving and ceramics as a main focus to portray their artwork, the children will have the opportunity to work with clay and mimic this style of art. Finally, we will discover why chocolate was so important during this period in history.

Year 5



This term, Y5 will be carrying on with the exciting topic *Mission to Mars*! They have already become experts exploring our fascinating universe, and in the next couple of weeks, they will be exploring the future of space travel and tourism. Using a combination of technology, drama and art, they will be creating their own space tourism company. Y5 will be designing the future of Mars by creating and developing their own advertisement campaign which include adverts, posters and a presentation where they will pitch to the rest of the class. This is a fantastic



opportunity to show off their amazing space knowledge that they have developed over the last couple of weeks and to develop their technology skills. This means year 5 will become experts on future space travel to Mars that could even rival SpaceX!

Year 6



This half-term Year 6 will be beginning their 'Geography Live' adventure. Using maps, atlases, globes and digital mapping such as Google Earth, the children will develop their skills to locate countries and describe their features. The children will become experts in identifying main environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, and major cities. We will then revisit this in the summer when the children will use their new skills to take part in a field study of our local area. This term, the children will also be finding out about Buddhism. We have spent this week learning about the Buddha and his enlightenment. The children have learnt about his teachings of The Four Noble Truths and The Eightfold Path and will practise a little meditation and yoga as part of our Be Active Wellbeing unit.

Take care and have a wonderful Weekend!