



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you had a restful and safe festive period. It has been great to welcome the children back to school. The daily routine remains the same, the children will arrive between 8.45-8.55am, where they will be met by an adult from our class. Then they will store their belongings before starting the day. The children should have book bags that can be put away easily in their trays as we do not have the space in our cloakrooms to store larger bags. They will continue to need a coat each day as we endure the great British winter!

The children will have **PE** on a Monday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoon. The children should wear black joggers or shorts, a white t-shirt and a **school** hoodie or sweatshirt for PE. It would be ideal if the children had black trainers that they can wear each day, as we regularly use the school running track.

In **English**, our first focus text will be 'A River' by Marc Martin. This is a lovely book that describes the journey of a river, we will be producing our own versions that describe our journey through the village in a narrative poetry style. Our next sequence will be around 'Meerkat mail' by Emily Gravett and we will learn to write postcards and letters. Both of these will complement our unit about the UK in geography. After half term, our learning will be based on the texts 'Interview with a Tiger' and 'The Beasties.' Through these high-quality books we will learn to write questions and answers about animals and our own beastie stories respectively.

We will begin the Spring term by continuing our learning about Multiplication and Division in **maths**. This sequence will introduce the formal methods of calculation, including bus stop and column multiplication, to the children. After this, we will complete a short unit around money followed by statistics. Next, we will learn about length and perimeter before starting our fractions sequence. We will continue the around the world challenge on a Thursday and we are grateful for your continued support with helping the children to learn their times tables. Please be assured that we do emphasise that the challenge is a small part of our maths learning, that children will complete at different rates. We regularly discuss this with the children to ensure that pressure remains low.

Spelling tests will continue to be on a Friday and I have sent the words for the half term home. It is brilliant to see the children **reading** frequently at home and this makes a real difference to their achievement in reading. We are grateful for your ongoing support with this. The children will have their guided reading book and a book of their choice from our class library each week. We hear them read regularly in school through guided teaching sessions and independently.

The wider curriculum will remain the same. This half term, Year 3 will have Science, Geography, Art, ICT, PE, RE, PSHE and Spanish. The details of the sequences can be found on the class page of our website. The subject overviews contain the learning objectives, key vocabulary, prior learning and where this sequence fits in the children's journey through the subject. These overviews will also feature at the start of the sequence in the children's books and files. They will be familiar with the information that they contain and would provide a useful prompt for conversations at home.

We are working hard to book trips and visitors for the upcoming terms as we are aware the children missed their trip last term. Once these are confirmed, more details will be sent separately.

It has come to our attention that more and more children have access to the internet independently at home. There has been a particular increase in children watching YouTube. Without supervision, it is possible to view very inappropriate content on this site. Please refer to the new eSafety pages on our website should you require support or guidance with this matter. There is a copy of our safe usage policy as well as a sheet for parents with lots of useful information on it.

If you have any questions about anything regarding your child, please do not hesitate to contact us. Please email admin@winkleigh.devon.sch.uk and we will try to get a reply within 48 hours.

Kind regards,

Mr Slocombe