



# Danbury Park Community Primary School

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## Class F Topic letter Autumn 2020 Time Travellers

Hello and welcome to the Autumn term, after what we hope was a restful Summer break. We welcome you to Class Flamingo and hope that your children will be inspired and excited by the lessons we have planned for them after what has been an unusual year so far.



### Topic

Our topic for this term is "Time Travellers" which will involve looking into the past, particularly at castles. We will look at differences between the past and present and learn about significant history in our locality. For further details on what the children will be learning, please look at the curriculum map on the school website.

### Class Routines

Mrs Buer teaches on Monday and Tuesday and Mrs McIntosh teaches Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Mrs Clarke is our Learning Support Assistant on Tuesday to Friday. Mrs Parker will be the class LSA on a Monday morning.

Reading is a vital part of education and we would ask that an adult hears your child read regularly at home and makes a note in the reading diary. In Year Two, as reading develops, it is equally important to discuss the text with your child as well as 'hear' them read, to develop their comprehension skills.

In Class F, as Year Two children, we expect the children to generally change their own books first thing in the morning (we are on hand to help where and when needed). We will always remind all the children when they first come in to change their books and give them time to do so. Book will be put aside for 24 hours once brought back in as per government guidance before being sent home with another child.



The weekly spelling test will take place on a Tuesday. Due to the current climate we will be keeping the spelling books in school and your child will write their result in their reading diary.

We will be asking the children to complete tasks on the Mathletics websites (username and passwords given) that will help consolidate or extend your child's learning from in the classroom. We will cover the area of maths in class first then set the tasks to do at home. Your child will be set activities on Mathletics fortnightly but please feel free to do any other activities your child wishes to attempt. During this term your child will be given a password for an online multiplication game, which in the past, the children have really enjoyed and can challenge each other and themselves whilst having fun!

P.E will take place on Tuesday (outdoors) and Wednesday (indoors). Please provide your child with a hat for sunny weather and school track suit for colder weather. In the PE kit, please ensure there are a pair of short socks for these lessons as we find they often get damp feet or, if your child is wearing tights they need socks to change into. Please can you also ensure any earrings are removed either before coming to school or can be removed by your child.

We encourage the children to drink regularly, from a water bottle during school time and would therefore ask you to provide a named bottle of fresh water for your child daily. Following guidance the water fountains in the school are not in use and therefore it is imperative that your child brings in their own NAMED water bottle.

### General

We realise that there are a lot of routines for everybody to adapt to however we will endeavour to make the transition as smooth and happy as we possibly can.

If you have any queries or questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. We have our Class F email address (ClassF@danburypark.eesex.sch.uk) which we will look at every day between 3.30 and 4pm and we also check reading diaries daily so you could pop a note in there.

### Our Curriculum

**English** - English is taught daily as well as being embedded throughout all lessons. This term our genre areas are: stories in familiar settings, traditional stories (Castles), stories with a historical theme, an alternative version of a well-known story, a story



based on one from a different culture, recounts, instructions, diary entries, recounts and castle poetry. You will be given copies as in Year One of common exception words to learn for Year Two as well as weekly spellings. We will adjust these spellings once we know your children well so each child works at their level. We are awaiting guidance on 1:1 reading and guided reading and will update you as soon as we know. Our reading books can now only be changed on a Monday and Thursday to allow for the guidelines of waiting 72 hours before returning books to a shelf. As guidance changes we will alter accordingly.

In Year Two we focus on correct letter formation to enable children to join their letters up. Children are encouraged to neatly write the date and title of their book in their reading diaries when reading at home.

**Maths** - maths is taught as a lesson every day but we also try to include real life maths in the classroom as much as possible. We will start with looking at place value and really consolidating previous learning. When they are ready, we will be encouraging children to recognise, compare, use and work with numbers up to 100, partitioning two-digit numbers and beginning to count in ones, twos, fives and tens. Through the term, we will move on to the four calculations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) and incorporating the area of "money" with this. We will also spend a week looking at 2D and 3D shapes. We will endeavour to make maths as practical as we can, while observing the restrictions we have in the current climate.

**Science** - our science topic is materials. Again we will link this to castles and looking at materials used in castle making as well as bringing it up to date and looking at changing materials when recycling and the properties of materials.

**Computing** - We will be looking at how to stay safe online, understanding the dangers and children should seek help if necessary, making our own set of online safety rules for the class. We will also be looking at algorithms to program a Beebot and discussing ways in which we use technology in our world.

**History** - Our topic is Time Travellers and we will be focussing on life in a castle and castle times. The children will learn to use primary and secondary sources for research, to tell the difference between past and present in their own and other people's lives, to know how people lived in castles and the different jobs that had to be done and to recognise some of the similarities and differences between periods of time and to place the era of building castles in a time line.



**Geography** - Linked to our castle topic the children will be identifying landscape features and locating castles on a simple map. We will teach them about key human features for castle settlements and to use coordinates and compass points.

**Art and Design/DT** - We will be experimenting with a variety of media; pencils, crayons, pastels, charcoal and Chalk. We will be doing some sketching of castles, silhouettes, looking at colour, shade and tone. We will be using strips of paper to make a weave pattern. We will be asking the children to design a castle and create it at home, using everyday junk modelling and then evaluating their creation. We will also be designing and making a Knight's shield from cardboard and embellishing it as designed.

**Music** - Mrs Long will be teaching the children Music every week. They will be learning to be musical detectives, looking for clues in music that tell them about what is happening in the story. They will be responding to and making music for our Castles topic. They will also be learning about our first two Composers of the Month, Janacek and Richter, and creating work inspired by their music.

**PE** - Outdoor PE. This will be taught by Premier Sports and they will be following our curriculum, albeit adapted to due to Covid 19 of outdoor team games and ball skills. Indoor PE - We will be covering Dance. The children will look at copying and creating movements and linking them together to create a beginning, middle and end. They will be performing using control, movement phrases using a range of body actions and body parts. We will look at the effects exercising has on the body.

**RE** - This term we will be looking at Special People and Special places. We will be looking at the role people play in the local community, famous people and how we commemorate well-known people. We will incorporate learning about specific celebrations including Harvest, Remembrance Day and Christmas. Additional foci will be Sikhism; naming ceremonies and weddings.

We will also be looking at places that are special to us; our school, the town we live in and places we visit for a holiday. We will look at Christianity, the local church and other local places of worship. Additional foci will be Islam.

**PSHEe & C.** This is taught exclusively every week and will be looking at the following headings over the term.

### **Relationships**

**Families and Friendships** Making friends; feeling lonely and getting help.

**Safe Relationships** Managing secrets; resisting pressure and getting help; recognising hurtful behaviour.



**Respecting ourselves and others** Recognising things in common and differences; playing and working cooperatively, sharing opinions.

**Languages** - The children will be taught French every week by Madame Dekhar. They will be reading the story of *Les Quatre Amis*.

Thank you in advance for your support and we look forward to a great year with your children.

**Mrs McIntosh and Mrs Buer**  
**Class Flamingo Teachers**

