Danbury Park Community Primary School

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4th September 2021

Dear parents,

Welcome to Class Budgerigar

Our topic this term is *The Victorians*. The class will find out about the queen who gave her name to this era and the changes that occurred in Britain at this time.

In English, the children will write at length in a variety of genres and they will start with a biography on Queen Victoria. They will write an explanation text on a Victorian invention of their choice and non-chronological reports on a variety of Victorian themes including the Industrial Revolution, the British Empire and education. They will write an instruction text linked to a stable structure design task inspired by the work the Victorian engineer, Isambard Kingdom Brunel. The children will be expected to continue to read regularly to an adult at home and to continue to record their reading in their school reading journal, which I refer to during reading conferences. This term we will be looking at a classic Victorian text, *Alice in Wonderland*. In poetry, we will look at the poem *Jabberwocky* as well as haikus and cinquains. I will be using Peter Bunzl's fiction, *Cogheart*, as my starting point in guided reading. Spelling tests will take place on Fridays and it would be helpful if you could encourage your child to explore the spelling patterns, rules and exceptions beyond the words set.

In Mathematics, the main areas covered will be:

Place value

- rounding, adding and subtracting numbers to the powers of 10 up to 10 000 000;
- negative numbers through 0;
- Roman numerals;
- reading, writing and comparing numbers up to 10 000 000
- word and practical maths problems.

Addition and subtraction:

- Add and subtract numbers mentally with increasingly large numbers;
- Add and subtract whole numbers with more than 4 digits, including using formal written methods (columnar addition and subtraction).

Multiplication and division

- Multiply and divide whole numbers by 10, 100 and 1000.
- Multiply numbers up to 6 digits by a one or two digit number using a formal written method, including long multiplication for 2 digit numbers.
- Divide numbers up to 6 digits by a one digit number using the formal written method of short division and interpret remainders appropriately for the context.
- Identify multiples and factors, including finding all factor pairs of a number, and common factors of two numbers.

- Recognise and use square numbers and cube numbers and the notation for squared (2) and cubed (3)

Fractions
- Use common factors to simplify fractions; use common multiples to express fractions in the same denomination.
- Compare and order fractions, including fractions > 1
- Generate and describe linear number sequences (with fractions)
- Add and subtract fractions with different denominations and mixed numbers, using the concept of equivalent fractions.

In year 5 and yr 6 it is expected that they have a quick recall of all the times tables, up to and including the twelves.

In Science, we will cover the topics: Living Things and their Habitats and Evolution and Inheritance. The main areas are:

Living Things & their Habitats
To be able to explain the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird.
To describe the life process of reproduction in some plants & animals.
Describe how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences, including micro-organisms, plants and animals.
Give reasons for classifying plants and animals based on specific characteristics.

Evolution and inheritance
To learn that living things have changed over time and fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago.
Recognise living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents

In RE for the first half of the term, we will be focussing on the Islamic faith. We will look at the Five Pillars of Islam, the part played by the city of Makkah and the Ka'aba in the life of the Prophet Muhammad, the importance of hajj (pilgrimage to Makkah and other holy sites) in Islam, rituals associated with prayer in Islam for example - wudu, facing Makkah, using a carpet, prayer positions. In the second half of the term, we will look at Christianity and the importance of Jesus looking at important events in his life and his significance for Christians.

In PSHE we will be using the PSHE Association and the first topic is Relationships. In PE the class will be covering tag rugby in outside games and using both floor and apparatus for sequences, levels and flight in gymnastics this term. In art, the class will look at the work of the Victorian craftsman, William Morris and will sew a sample using a variety of stitches. The class will be looking at decomposition and logical number sequences as a starting point in computing.

Should you have any concerns, no matter how small you think they may be, please email the office who will forward it to me as the sooner I am aware of any issues then the sooner we can work together to get them sorted.

Mrs Marsland