



Danbury Park Community Primary School

Well Lane Danbury Chelmsford CM3 4AB

Telephone: 01245 224994 or 01245 224673

Email: admin@danburypark.essex.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs C Gooding BA (Hons), PGCE, MA (Ed), NPQH

Deputy Headteacher: Miss D Johnston BA

Class Hummingbird

Autumn Term 2023

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Class Hummingbird. I look forward to getting to know you and your child this term. The past couple of weeks the children have been establishing our new routines and settling into school life. Our topic for the Autumn term is 'All Creatures Great and Small' and the children will be learning all about the amazing creatures on our planet through each area of the National Curriculum. We are lucky enough to have some exciting learning this term including a visit from Exotic Explorers and their amazing animals.

Please ensure that your child has all their belongings clearly labelled. Your child's hair should be tied up at all times and no jewellery is to be worn.

Reading Books

The children's reading books will be changed when they are secure on the front cover and are confident in reading the text. Your child will be read with an adult one to one for one week and then in Guided Reading groups for the next two weeks. An adult will change your child's book. As an incentive for your child if they read three or more times in a week, they will receive a stamp.

Spellings

The children will be tested every Friday on their spellings. They will receive five known spellings using a spelling pattern. We will also add in five unknown spellings that use the same spelling pattern. To support your child's fluency in spelling get them to put their spellings into simple sentences as this allows them to apply their spelling knowledge. You will be given a list of half termly spellings that your child will also be tested on. Please get your child to practise their Tricky Words reading and spelling

them as they will be tested on these, every half term. Spelling books will be sent home but need to be returned on the Monday morning.

Phase Cards

Please ensure that you are practising your Phase Card during the week. Your child needs to be able to identify the phoneme, say the phoneme, read words with the sound in and write words using that grapheme. You can also access Bug Club where there are games and books for your child to access.

Your child has received a Mathletics log in. Tasks will be set that are relevant to the learning we have done in school that week.

In English the children will be sharing a range of texts both fiction and non-fiction linked to the creature theme. The focus this term will be on using the correct pencil grip and forming our letters correctly. The children will learn the names of the families the letters belong to and where they sit on the line. They will be encouraged to use these texts as a basis for their own writing. They will also be exploring poetry and drama through topic related material.

In Maths, the children will be focusing on place value. They will be looking at addition and subtraction and will be learning to use a variety of concrete and pictorial resources to support their understanding. We will be looking at shapes both 2D and 3D in the world around us and looking at everyday objects and using mathematical language to describe them.

In Science, we will be sorting, identifying and naming a variety of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. We will be looking at a variety of common animals that are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores. We will also be observing changes across the four seasons. They will observe and describe weather associated with the seasons and how day length varies. We will be learning how to ask questions and understand that they can be answered in a number of different ways.

In Art and Design Technology, they will be encouraged to develop a wide range of art and design techniques in using colour, pattern, texture, line, shape, form and space. We will be using a range of materials to create collages. We will be learning about Primary and Secondary colours and explore mixing these to create new colours.

We will be looking at the work of Kandinsky and we will recreate a piece of his art work.

In Music, lessons will be on a Thursday morning with Mrs Long. The children will be describing and recognising sounds, making music with the percussion instruments, and singing songs to do with our topic of *All Creatures Great and Small*. We will also be listening and responding to music by our first two Composers of the Month, Firsova and Ginastera. This half term we will be responding to music by our next two Composers of the Month, Desplat and Anderson, listening to and composing music inspired by *Bonfire Night* and learning some traditional and new songs and carols for Christmas.

In Geography and History we will learn about Human and Physical features so the children can identify these within their locality. We will learn the compass points and create maps showing landmarks and directions. We will begin to find out how the UK is linked to other places in the world, e.g. food from other countries. The children will learn about the difference between past and present life. They will recognise the similarities and differences between periods of time.

In ICT, the children will understand the dangers of using the internet and how they should seek help and support if necessary using 'Smartie the Penguin'. They will learn how to create, manipulate and retrieve digital content using art software.

PE will be every Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning. In Physical Development we will be practising our co-ordination and balancing skills. In dance we will be learning to move and safely use the space around us. We will learn to make a sequence of movements and perform them. We will look at how movement affects our body. In outdoor games we will be developing our ball skills and will be throwing and catching a variety of equipment. Please ensure your child's PE kit is fully labelled and your child has spare socks. Please ensure your child's hair is tied back and their earrings are removed.

In RE the children will be taught by Ms Middleton. The children will learn about special people and special places looking at Judaism: Shabbat, Hinduism: Puja, Diwali and Buddhism: Buddha in the home.

Home learning will be set every Friday and will be on a three week rota of Athletics, Bug Club and a maths game. This will be stuck in their Reading Diaries at the end of each week.

As you can see we have a busy term ahead! If you have any questions, I will be very happy to discuss them with you.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs Smith
Class Teacher