



# Danbury Park Community Primary School

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January 2024

## Class Flamingo Spring Term 2024

Dear Parents,

We hope you all had a good Christmas break and we would like to wish you a happy new year. The children have had a brilliant start to the new year and know that we're going to have an exciting term of learning ahead of us.

Our topics this term are "Fire! Fire!" and "Lost in London" and the children are very excited about them already. We will be looking at the Great Fire of London, London as our capital city and all the information surrounding this. This will be cross-curricular and feed into many of lessons this term. As part of our topic, we will also be looking at Tudor Houses and will be holding a DT day to make some! Letter and details will follow in due course.

### Class Routines

Class routines will continue as last term, with Miss Lees teaching on Monday and Tuesday and Mrs McIntosh teaching Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Mrs Murdamootoo is our Learning Support Assistant (LSA) on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and Mrs Williams is the class LSA on a Thursday and Friday morning.

We encourage the children to drink regularly, from a water bottle during the school day and would therefore ask you to continue to provide a **named bottle** of fresh water for your child daily.

Our PE days are Tuesdays (outdoor) and Wednesday (indoor), so children will need to ensure their shorts, jogging trousers, socks, a t-shirt and plimsolls are in school on these days. Please remember earrings must be removed for PE lessons (we can no longer tape up earrings) and that long hair needs to be tied back every day. Please could all children have spare socks in their P.E bags as they sometimes come back in with wet socks if the field is damp.

### Homework - Reading

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. We check the diaries every day and, on a Friday, count up the number of times a child has read to an adult at home. If this is three times or more your child will be given a sticker as a 'Bookworm Award' culminating in an end of term certificate. Children will continue to have an opportunity to change their books every morning, whenever they have completed a book to an adult. We would also encourage the children to occasionally neatly write in their own diaries about what they have read and what they thought about it.

### Homework – Maths

We will continue to 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. We will always pop a note in the diaries when tasks are set, but please feel free to do any other activities your child wishes to attempt.

Times Table Rockstars is always set up for your child to access when they wish.

### Homework – spellings

Spellings will follow the same format with weekly spellings and half termly common exception words to learn. Tests will take place on a TUESDAY in school. We do ask for spelling books to be returned to school as soon as you have celebrated the result with your child.

### Our Curriculum

**English** – English is taught daily, as well as being embedded throughout all lessons. This term our genre areas are: stories with historical settings/themes, adventure stories, writing an event or story set in historical period studied, a new adventure for Paddington in London, instructions, recount, information text (such as recipes to make bread), diary extracts based on factual information about the Great Fire of London, information sheets about London, performance poetry and other forms of poetry.

**Maths** – Maths continues to be 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 by looking at money and encourage lots of playing with money at school and home. After this we will be moving on to Time, starting with O'clock and half past, quarter hours and minutes past and to – it would be great if you could practice at home too. This half term we will also cover: Number and Place Value, Mass, Weight, 2D and 3D shapes, Multiplication and Division, Length, Addition and Subtraction, Fractions, Position and Direction.

**Topic** – as mentioned above, we will be learning about The Great Fire of London as well as finding out about the human and physical features of London, including the main landmarks. We need to be able to tell the difference between primary and secondary sources of information, compare the past and the present and look at significant individuals/events that have contributed to national and international achievements. We shall also be locating and mapping famous landmarks in London as well as recognising human and physical features of the City. If you have the chance to visit London or have pictures and souvenirs that might be useful, we will be encouraging the children to talk about and bring things in to add to our discussions and learning environment.

**Science** – Our science topic is Living things and their Habitats. We will be looking at things that are living, dead or never alive and also why animals are suited to their environment.

**Computing** – We will, again, be looking at how to stay safe online, particularly recognising whether a website is appropriate and can be trusted. We will look at sequences and the effect of changing the order of instructions, then focus on using logical reasoning to predict outcomes. Finally we will be creating pictograms and presenting information on the computer.

**Art** – The children really enjoy their weekly art lessons and this term we will be using a variety of media to create art work linked to The Great Fire of London.

**Design and Technology** We will be using a variety of materials to make towers to check their durability and strength. We will also be making our own Tudor houses out of cardboard boxes (DT day).

**Physical Education – Outdoor PE.** This will be taught by Premier Sports and they will be following our curriculum outdoor team games and ball skills.

**Indoor PE** – We will be covering Yoga. This will cover the benefits yoga offers to the mind and body, particular poses and the parts of the body it most benefits and also telling stories through yoga.

*Please ensure your child has all their PE kit named and a spare set of socks for as they often get damp if the field is wet or, if children are wearing tights, they need socks to change into please.*

**Religious Education** – This term we will be looking at Judaism and who God is to the Jews. We will be looking at Abraham's covenant with God, the story of Moses and the Ten Commandments.

**PHSE** – Living in the wider world is our topic heading and within this we will be covering the following: Belonging to a community, Media Literacy and Digital Resilience, Money and Work.

If you have any concerns, queries, information, or maybe even skills to share, please come and talk to us, email us or leave a message at the school office and we will contact you as soon as possible to arrange a mutually convenient appointment.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs McIntosh and Mrs Lees  
Class Teachers

