



Danbury Park Community Primary School

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Class Hummingbird Autumn Term 2024

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Class Hummingbird. I hope that you all had a good summer and are well rested! Over the past week the children have been learning our new routines and settling into school life. Our topic for the Autumn term is 'Toys' and the children will be learning all about 'Toys' through each area of the National Curriculum.

Dates for your diary

Tuesday October 15th is our Harvest Celebration at 9.15. Parent consultations are Tuesday 22nd October and Thursday 24th October. Appointments do fill up quickly so please ensure once you receive this form it is returned to school as soon as possible so that we can do our best to accommodate your preferred day and time.

On Friday 8th November we have the Toy Museum coming in. This is a fantastic opportunity for the children who learn about the history of toys and is a real hands-on experience.

Routines

The children will be tested every Friday morning on their spellings. Spelling books will be sent home but need to be returned on the Monday morning. 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. Please get your child to practise their Tricky Words reading and spelling them as they will be tested on these every half term. To support your child further with their spellings get them to write them in sentences this develops their accuracy and fluency in writing.

Home learning

On a three-week rota your child will be set a task on Mathletics. Your child has a Mathletics log in which is the same as last year. Tasks will be set that are relevant to the learning we have done in school that week. The Bug Club log in is also the same and the children will be set activities. Your child will also bring home a maths games, which we encourage you to play with your child. Please let us know if there are any pieces missing so that we can replace them. These will be given on Friday and returned on the Monday.

Reading at Home

We would like to encourage all children to continue to read to someone at home, every night for about 10 minutes, as this is invaluable and vital to your child's learning. If you could initial their home-school link book or write a comment to show your child has read this will help us to praise your child in school.

Each time you record that your child has read to an adult at home, your child's diary is stamped with a *star*. If your child reads 3 or more times a week they receive a '*I have read at home 3 times this week!*' reading stamp in their diary.

If your child reads 3 times or more every week they will also receive a '*Star Reader*' stamp. The stamps are awarded on Fridays.

At the end of each half-term, the children that have received a Star Reader stamp every week will receive a 'Bookworm' certificate.

Finally, at the end of the term, those children that have received a 'Star Reader' stamp **every week** will receive a special reading certificate to acknowledge and celebrate their hard work.

Subjects

In English the children will be sharing a range of texts both fiction and non-fiction linked to the Toys theme. The focus this year 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. We will start to look at spelling patterns and the grammatical features of English. 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 looking at objects, materials and the properties they have. We will also look at the differences and similarities of manmade and natural materials. How they are used and why they are used. This will also link into our sustainability learning and looking after materials. 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.

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 Toys. 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 start to look at the United Kingdom and identify the capital cities. We will also look at where toys are made in the United Kingdom and other countries as well as how they are transported around the world. We will compare the toys children have in the United Kingdom to that of children in other countries. We will look at the North and South Equator and The Seven Continents of the world! The children will learn about the difference between past and present life. They will recognise the similarities and differences between periods of time. They will look at toys in the past and how they have changed over 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. The children should come in wearing their PE kits. We will be doing in door and outside PE so please make sure they have a tracksuit to keep them warm. 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 that your child has all their belongings clearly labelled. Your child's hair should be tied up at all times and no jewellery is worn.

In RE the children will be taught by Ms Middleton. The key question for Year 1 RE this term is **What do Christians believe about God?** The theme is the Christian creation story and the lesson plans are as follows:

The children will discuss how to respect the work of a creator. They will retell the Christian creation story. Think about how Christians think God wants them to behave towards the world. Understand some of the ways Christians believe God wants them to behave towards others. Look at how to take care of something or somebody. Then say how it feels to take care of the world or somebody.

If you are interested in being a parent helper in class, could you please write your availability in your child's reading diary. You will then need to go to the office for further information.

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. I am looking forward to getting to know you and your children this term.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs Smith
Class Teacher

