

## Year 6 Newsletter – Autumn 2

### **Welcome**

Welcome to Year 6, Kestrels Class! In this termly newsletter you will find out all about the exciting things we will be learning and any events coming up.

### **Phonics and Reading**

Whole class reading sessions will take place daily, using a variety of texts. We will focus on developing reading fluency, which children can practise at home by reading frequently.

We will also focus on comprehension skills such as inference & retrieval.

**Phonics**

### **Recommended reads:**

Cogheart by Peter Bunzl

The Nowhere Emporium by Ross McKenzie

The Boy at the Back of the Class by Onjali Rauf



### **Writing**

This term we will begin by studying the novel 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty. This will provide further background knowledge on our topic The Victorians. We will create diary entries in role as the characters, and then move on to writing balanced arguments about whether or not Victorian workhouses should have existed. We will end the term by studying 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens, writing character and setting descriptions.



### **Maths**

Our maths unit this term is fractions. We will look at equivalent fractions, simplifying and ordering fractions. We will also look at which methods to use to add and subtract fractions with different denominators, before learning how to multiply and divide fractions by whole numbers.



### **Science**

Our Science topic this term is 'The Nature Library', linked to classification of plants and animals. Children will observe the characteristics of animals and plants and use these to find similarities and differences, before classifying them into groups. They will look at vertebrates and invertebrates and give reasons why living things would be classified into one group and not another.



### **Computing**

Our computing topic this term is 'Internet Safety'. We will look at the benefits and risk of apps, location sharing and data sharing. We will learn about what is meant by our 'digital footprint' and how to ensure we are behaving appropriately online. We will then look at the importance of balancing screen time with other areas of life.



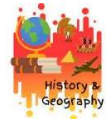
### **Art & Design/Design & Technology**

This term our unit will be D&T based – the unit is called 'Stuffed Decorations'. The children will design a Christmas decoration, before using different sewing techniques to make it out of felt and stuff it.



### **Geography/History**

Our History topic this year is 'The Victorians'. The children will be introduced to Queen Victoria's life and achievements, before finding out what life was like for ordinary Victorian children. We will look at school life, work houses and general home life, before finding out about the Industrial Revolution and the impact this had. We will learn about key figures such as Dr Barnardo and Lord Shaftesbury.



### **Music**

Our Music unit this term is 'Classroom Jazz'. We will be listening to and appraising a variety of music, then describing the style and structure. We will also identify any instruments used and any voices we can hear.



### **PE**

Our PE units this term will be gymnastics and fitness. In gymnastics we will be learning different ways of travelling and how to accurately perform balances and rolls. In Fitness we will be looking to improve our stamina and strength and work to beat our own personal bests and goals.



### **PSHE**

Our PSHE topic this term is 'Celebrating Difference.' We will be looking at what 'normal' means to us, understanding disability and inclusion, then moving on to think about what bullying looks like and why it happens, then celebrating all of our differences.



### **RE**

This half term we will be learning about Hinduism. We will learn about the key beliefs of Hindus, as well as how and where they worship. We will learn about the idea of karma and how this influences the way that Hindus live their lives. We will also find out about different Hindu ceremonies.



### **Enrichment**

On Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December, we will be taking a trip to Holdenby House, to fully immerse ourselves in the Victorian schooling experience!



### **Homework Project**



- Find out about and write an information page for something that was invented during the Victorian era. What problem did it solve?
- Create a job advert for a child to take on a job during Victorian times.
- Find out about Victorian homes for the poor and homes for the rich. Can you compare the two? How are they similar or different to households today?
- Design and draw some clothing for a rich Victorian child to wear.



### **Skills Builder**

The Skills Builder Universal Framework provides a common language for building essential skills with children and young people.

Research shows that building essential skills supports social and emotional wellbeing, learning and academic outcomes and careers and opportunities



### **Times Tables Rockstars**



### **Spelling Shed**



### **Rewards**

The children will receive 'Dojo Points' as reward for good behaviour, work and attitude. Points can be 'spent' on prizes periodically.



### **Class information**

**Class Teacher:** Mrs Connachie  
**Teaching Assistant:** Miss Johnson

Please remember to name your child's school jumper or cardigan.

We request that all children bring a named water bottle to school every day and as the weather is warmer a sun hat and sun cream.

Please remember if you are making your child a packed lunch, we ask you not to put anything in that contains nuts.



### **Dates for the diary!**

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October – Forest School (1 half of class)

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October – Scholastic Book Fair arrives (school hall)

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October – Forest school (1 half of class)

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December – Holdenby House school trip