



Beckley Church of England Primary School

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Friday 13th September 2019

Dear Parents

Welcome back! I hope your children have had a restful and enjoyable break over the summer and are ready to learn in Skylark Class. I'm excited for the term ahead and getting to know the new members of the class.

I will be teaching the initial half term and a few weeks after as well. After that Mrs. Cockhill will be returning from her maternity leave and teaching full time for the rest of the year. As such, some practicalities of the following information may change slightly but you will be informed of any important changes.

Mr James will be supporting us throughout the week as teaching assistant. Mr. Dyer will continue as he did last year and be teaching the Wednesday afternoon sessions in Science and PE. Mrs White will take sessions in Art and D&T on Friday afternoons as well.

PE is planned for Tuesdays and Wednesdays but please ensure children bring their PE kits everyday - extra sessions are always a possibility. Please include a named water bottle at school each day as well. Skylarks will start swimming in January and these sessions will always take place on a Thursday.

Homework will be given on Wednesday and children should bring their homework back by the following Tuesday. Homework will include spellings and some punctuation and grammar work. There will also be regular assigned Mathletics to support the maths we are learning in the classroom. Please encourage your children to keep-up their Mathletics practice and to continue to read on a daily basis (It makes a big impact on their school work).

In English, we will be starting by looking at a modern fantasy story, 'How to train your dragon' by Cressida Cowell. We will use the story to learn about setting, character and world building. This will be interspersed with grammar and comprehension embedded within the work on the class novel.

In Mathematics we will start with number and place value before moving onto the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division). This will provide the core foundation for the learning throughout the rest of the year.

In Science, Skylarks will focus on how to perform Science investigations effectively (what makes a fair test, what is variable). Our Topic for the term is Kings and Queens of England. We will be looking at the key monarchs who have shaped British history, identity and law and relating it to our lives now in Oxford.

In Art, the children will be working on pieces in preparation for the Harvest festival. Harvest will soon be upon us and we will consider its celebration alongside other festivals in our RE focus: Hinduism. We will learn about the various deities and traditions of the Hindu faith and consider ideas like reincarnation and karma. In P.E, the children will enjoy learning skills in wall and net games before moving on to dance later in the term.

I am excited for the term ahead and discovering more on these topics alongside the children. As always, do grab me, either before the school day begins or at the end of the day, if there is anything you would like me made aware of or is causing concern. If that is not possible do contact the school office and another time or means of contact can be sorted out.

Best wishes

Mr Bailey
Skylark Class Teacher