



## Eagles' Class Newsletter Spring Term 2016

<b>English</b> 	<p>Our Literacy work this term will be centred around high quality texts and our topic work. We will be using our topic work on democracy and government to influence our writing, writing a biography on a figure linked to our topic such as Emmeline Pankhurst and writing a balanced argument on Oliver Cromwell – was he a villain or a hero? and recount of our trip to Ely. We shall also be reading the book 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes and will be responding to this text by writing in different ways. We will also be studying the classic narrative poem 'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes. Throughout the term we will be ensuring that our handwriting is fluent, legible with that we are developing a personal style also that our spelling is accurate, using a dictionary to check words we are unsure of. We will also work towards mastering all the punctuation marks and sentence structures we have learnt about so we can confidently and consistently use these in our everyday writing.</p>
<b>Maths</b> 	<p>Each day the children will take part in a daily Mathematics session. During and after each session the children's understanding will be assessed in order to ensure that they are appropriately supported or extended in their learning. We will be focusing on ensuring that the children are fluent and confident in their addition, subtraction, multiplication and division skills and that they can apply this knowledge to accurately solve problems and undertake investigations. During the first 3 weeks we will be working on multiplication and division methods and problem solving. We shall then move onto Fractions decimals and percentages. Each week the children will continue to work on their mental maths skills to keep their skills sharp and to allow us to identify areas which need to be recapped either individually or as a class.</p>
<b>Science</b> 	<p>This term we will be focusing on light and electricity. We will start the term by focusing on light. We will learn how light travels and on how the eyes operate. We will also be investigating shadows and will be testing our own hypotheses. We might even experiment with shadow puppets and use our knowledge of shadows to create dramatic effects. During the second half term we will be focusing on electricity. We will be learning about circuits and on how different components are represented pictorially. We will also be investigating how the intensity of the bulb or buzzer can be changed. At the end of the topic we will be applying our knowledge to our own investigation and projects.</p>
<b>Computing</b> 	<p>We will start the term off by coding and using some new software to help us do this. We will also keep ourselves safe online by focusing on the acknowledging of sources, respecting privacy and copyright and checking validity of data.</p>
<b>Geography and History</b> 	<p>This term we will be studying how democracy and government can be viewed throughout British history with a quick journey through some of the major events that have shaped our country. We shall be looking at the Feudal system and how society was shaped. We will also look at the Magna Carta and how important this document was during our Magna Carta day in January. We will look at the role of the monarchy in our history and the time when England was a republic and the role of local</p>

	<p>man Oliver Cromwell. We shall also study women's emancipation and the leading figures in the right for a vote, especially as this year is 100 years since women obtained the right to vote. We will also be visiting Oliver Cromwell's house in Ely. Towards the end of the term we will turn our attention towards the theme of justice and will hopefully be having a visit from a local magistrate who will explain how the current law system works.</p>
<p><b>Art &amp; Design Technology</b></p> 	<p>Our art this term will be linked to our Light theme and we will be looking at the Op artist Bridget Riley, trying to create pieces based on her work. We shall also be looking at silhouettes and reflection work. We shall also look at light and stain glass windows based on our trip to Ely Cathedral. Our DT project will be linked with our electricity science work and the children will be using their knowledge of circuits to design and then create their own electrical project.</p>
<p><b>Music</b></p> 	<p>We shall start the term by looking at jazz. We will listen to different pieces of jazz and the history of the music. We will use the instruments to play the Three Note Bossa and the Five Note Swing piece. We will look at how to notate the music and read it.</p>
<p><b>PSHE</b></p> 	<p>Our PSHE work this term is linked to Rights, Rules and Responsibilities. We will look at what are our basic rights? Why do we have laws in our country? How does democracy work? What do councils and Parliament do? Hopefully we can answer these questions and listen to other people's views and have debates on what we think. The children will also be thinking about British Culture, showing respect for different lifestyles and beliefs, the negative effects of stereotyping and the role of the media in influencing us.</p>
<p><b>Physical Education</b></p> 	<p>This term during our outside PE sessions we will be developing our hockey skills, building up to playing small matches against Year 6. During our inside PE sessions we will continue to work on our gymnastic skills using the large apparatus, developing sequences and fine tuning movements before moving onto looking at dance styles.</p>
<p><b>Religious Education</b></p> 	<p>This term to link with our science topic we will be thinking about why light is significant in so many religions. We will also be looking at the timings of these celebrations of light and ponder the significance of this.</p>
<p><b>MFL</b></p> 	<p>This term we will be continuing to learn German. We shall be looking at numbers up to 31 , families and creating conversations. We shall also be having a German Easter day looking at the traditions of this special time.</p>
<p><b>Other Information and Finally</b></p>	<p>We are passionate about helping your child to develop a lifelong love of reading. Please encourage your child to read regularly at home and to discuss their reading with you, especially any vocabulary they are unfamiliar with. The children would also benefit greatly from practising mathematics and trying to earn certificates – it really does help! If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me. <i>Tina Culpin</i></p>