



## Hawks Class Newsletter Spring Term 2018

<p><b>English</b></p> 	<p>We will start the term writing and then posting formal letters to politicians and leaders linked to our theme of Democracy. This year we are thrilled to be participating in the 'Young Quills' Historical fiction Awards, through this we will be reading, evaluating and critiquing a range of high quality published texts- inspired by these we will write our own tension filled historical stories. After our visit to Oliver Cromwell's house we will write a balanced argument debating whether he was a hero or a villain. Later in the term we will be reading 'The Island' and will respond to this challenging text through debate, persuasive writing and poetry. Throughout the term we will be ensuring that our handwriting is joined and fluent, we will also ensure that our spelling is accurate, developing our self-checking skills. We will work hard towards mastering all the punctuation marks and sentence structures we have studied so we can confidently and consistently use these in our everyday writing.</p>
<p><b>Maths</b></p> 	<p>This term we will be working towards mastering the mathematical skills we were introduced to in the Autumn Term, especially our key arithmetic skills. This term we will be working on decimals, percentages, ratios, algebra and measurement including volume, area and perimeter. As in previous terms during and after each session the children's understanding will be assessed in order to ensure that they are appropriately challenged or supported in their learning.</p>
<p><b>Science</b></p> 	<p>This term we will be focusing on light and electricity. We will start the 1<sup>st</sup> half term focusing on light. We will learn how light travels and will be learning how the eyes receive and process images. We will also be investigating shadows and will be testing our own hypotheses as to how their size, colour and shape can be changed. Towards the end of the half term we will experiment with shadow puppets and the children will have the opportunity to apply their knowledge while performing. During the second half term we will be focusing on electricity. We will be learning about circuits and how different components are represented pictorially. We will also be investigating how the intensity of a bulb or buzzer can be changed. At the end of the topic the children will be given the opportunity to apply their knowledge within their DT project.</p>
<p><b>Geography and History</b></p> 	<p>Our topic this term is 'Democracy Rules!' We will be looking at how our country has been ruled throughout history and will focus on key developments and themes including kings and queens, the development of castles, the fugal system and the signing of the Magna Carta. This learning will be enriched through a visit from 'Gripping History' who will be running an interactive themed day. In addition we will be investigating the key role of individuals, focusing on Oliver Cromwell and Emmeline Pankhurst. We will be visiting Oliver Cromwell's house in Ely and key sites in Huntingdon including the Cromwell Museum. Towards the end of the term we will turn our attention towards the theme of justice and will be having a visit from a local magistrate who will explain how the current law system works.</p>

<p><b>Computing</b></p> 	<p>This term we will be focusing upon developing our coding skills. We will be planning and then coding our own computer games. We will be trying to organise and simplify our code, debugging where needed to ensure that it runs smoothly. We will be ending the unit by creating our own text based adventure game. During this term we will also be applying our new-found programming skills to create a game base on E-Safety. We will also be learning how to blog safely.</p>
<p><b>Art &amp; Design Technology</b></p> 	<p>During the first half term our Art work will link to our Science and RE focus of light. After being inspired by the beautiful stained glass windows in Ely Cathedral and Houghton Parish Church we will be designing our own stained glass designs which we will then create using glass paint. During the second half term we will be applying our knowledge of electrical circuits to create models which move- these will be inspired by the children's own interests.</p>
<p><b>Music</b></p> 	<p>We will start the term learning about Jazz. All the learning will be focused around two tunes: 'Bacharach Anorak' and 'Meet The Blues'. We will then be working on our rap and hip hop skills listening to 'The Fresh Prince of Bel Air', 'Run DMC' and 'The Fugees'. In these units we will be listening to music - learning about pace, pulse and rhythm - playing instruments (developing our sight reading skills), improvising, composing and performing.</p>
<p><b>PSHE</b></p> 	<p>Our PSHE themes this term are 'Citizenship' and 'Rights and Responsibilities'. This work will link to our topic theme of 'Democracy Rules!'. The children will 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. We will also thinking about our basic rights and how laws are made and enforced and about what councillors and MPs do.</p>
<p><b>Physical Education</b></p> 	<p>This term during our outside PE sessions we will be continuing with our Hockey Skills and then move onto football. During our gymnastic sessions we are fortunate to benefit from working with a professional coach from the HSSP. During the second half term we will move our attention to dance based on the theme of football.</p>
<p><b>Religious Education</b></p> 	<p>This term, to link with our Science topic, we will be learning about how light is significant to different religions. We will then think about why light is such a powerful concept and image. 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 continue to recap the language we have learnt so far and will then focus on learning our numbers- learning to say our ages and give our birthdays using the days of the week and months of the year. We will also be calculating in German.</p>
<p><b>Other Information and Finally</b></p>	<p>We continue to be committed to helping your child develop a life-long love of reading. Please continue to encourage your child to read regularly at home and to discuss their reading with you, especially any vocabulary they are unfamiliar with. Please also continue to use Mathletics regularly to recap the Math's work covered in class. Any Mathletics certificates earned will be given out weekly in KS2 Assemblies. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me. <i>Mrs Frances Smith</i></p>