

Diamond Class Spring Term Newsletter 2019

Welcome to back!

We have an exciting term ahead, filled with plenty of fun and interesting topics. I am really looking forward to seeing the children investigate and grow over the spring term. As always, I will endeavour to keep you up-to-date with any changes. Registration starts promptly at 8.50am. However, I will usually be available for a quick chat before then. I am happy to talk after school if you would like more time.

English

This term we will be focusing on information texts, narratives and newspaper writing. We will take inspiration from a variety of texts and other forms of media - such as short films.

Reading

We are still using our whole class guided reading approach and will continue this over the spring term, while also providing focused support on inference and retrieval skills. The children will continue to read independently and quiz using accelerated reader. It is *essential* children are reading for a minimum of 20 minutes a day and that they are heard reading as often as possible.

Mathematics

We will begin this term by revising our number skills focusing on decimals, percentages and algebra. We will also look at geometry for a small portion of the term, before moving on to measurement and ratio after February half term.

Topic

Our topic this half-term will be Blood Heart, which is a science based topic. We will be investigating the circulation system by dissecting an animal heart, and investigate the veins, arteries and chambers up close. We will discover how to keep our heart happy and ensure our circulatory system stays healthy.

P.E.

Our scheduled P.E. lessons are on Monday and Thursday afternoons. During the colder weather a cold weather kit is essential - tracksuit bottoms and a sweatshirt. In line with the county council's health and safety policy, earrings must be removed for P.E.. This term we will be focusing on circuits and football.

Could all parents please ensure that their child's P.E. kit is labelled with their name to allow us to quickly return any lost kit to its rightful owner.

Science

Over the next term, we will be focusing on animals, including humans. As part of this, I hope to incorporate as many skills based scientific approaches as possible. This will allow the children to become more independent when thinking scientifically. Early on in the term, we will be dissecting lambs hearts with help from a local vets. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this, please let me know as soon as possible.

Homework

Homework will continue to be set regularly over the next term; each piece of homework serves to support or consolidate the skills we have been using in lessons. The children will also still be expected to continue practising and learning their spellings and, in school, we will continue to learn and revise spelling patterns. My Maths homework will continue as soon as possible—this will be online. If anyone has any issues logging on to My Maths, please let me know.

Most of you will be aware we have memberships to Times Tables Rock Stars and Spelling Shed - the children seem to be really enjoying using fantastic websites to improve their quick recall and spelling skills. We would encourage the children to play on them as often as possible.

Open Classroom

After-school open class will be on a Tuesday each week.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you in advance for your continued support,
Mrs Heydon