

Opal Class Autumn Term Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to an exciting and productive year in Opal Class. Mrs Eastall and I are looking forward to working with the children and watching them progress throughout the year.

Topics

Our topic for this half term is '*A Taste of Italy*'. We will be learning about all things Italian - from its famous artists to its delicious food. In geography we will be studying the human and physical features in the country. We will learn to recognise the names and the locations of iconic landmarks. In Art we will study a particular artist: Michelangelo, and find out about other famous Italian artists. Finally, in DT the children will be researching different types of Italian foods before planning and designing their own pizzas!

This will lead into our topic '*What Did the Romans ever do for us?*' in the second half of the Autumn Term. The children will research the Roman Empire, important people at that time and the result of the successful invasion. They will have the opportunity to design and make a shield, and in art they will investigate mosaics.

We are currently in the process of arranging a visit to Colchester Castle to support our topic on Romans.

Science

First we will be looking at **States of Matter** (Solids, liquids and gasses) followed by **Sound**. In both areas of science the children will be encouraged to work scientifically as well as learning subject matter.

Homework

Homework will be given out on Wednesday and returned the following Monday. There will be a spelling investigation or spellings, Maths work accessed via the Active Learning platform and a grammar activity linked to current class work.

If your child is unable to access the Abacus homework, then a computer will be available in school for the homework to be completed, just let me know.

The Accelerated Reader programme will continue this year. The children are already aware of their band levels and choosing appropriate books ready to complete their first quizzes in Year 4.

P.E.

Our days are Tuesday and Friday; please ensure that your child has their P.E. kit in school everyday. *Just a polite reminder - earrings to be removed and long hair tied back. Thank you.*

Other

Meet the Teacher was last Friday 8th September 2017. If you were unable to make that day and would like to come in at another time, please let me know.

Open Class day is Friday. However, if you would like to drop in on another day please arrange this at the office. If you have any queries and/or concerns please let me know.

Regards Mrs A. Read
Class Teacher