

Springfield- Information for Parents

Welcome back and happy new year! I hope you've had a lovely Christmas and that your child is looking forward to the exciting year ahead. Here are a few organisational things for the start of the term.

PE days

Thursday (swimming) and **Friday**.

Please make sure full PE/ swimming kits, including indoor pumps and **outdoor trainers**, are in school and jewellery is removed on these days. It is also useful to have a **spare pair of socks** in their PE kit, as we will be going outside even if it is wet!

Homework

Literacy and maths homework will be handed out on **Thursdays** to be returned by **Tuesday** in the following week. The children will also have spellings to learn each week.

Reading- Please could you continue to read with your child 3 times a week and write this in their reading record. Children can also write in themselves when they have read independently.

Walking Home

If you would like your child to walk home on their own, please could you let me know.

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

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs Newby

This term our topic is: Amazing Americas.

English

In Literacy lessons, our work will be inspired by the novel, Holes by Louis Sachar. We will start by looking and formal and informal letter writing. We will then go on to writing newspaper reports.

We will continue with our whole class reading and SPAG (Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar) sessions.

Mathematics

This half-term, Year 6 will begin by learning about algebra. They will then go on to studying ratio and proportion and finally geometry and statistics.

Year 5 will begin by learning about decimals. They will then go onto studying percentages and finally statistics.

In addition to this, we will continue to have daily arithmetic sessions to work on basic number facts and calculations.

Science

This half term in science we will be learning about balanced and unbalanced forces, gravity, friction and the use of mechanisms such as levers, gears and pulleys.

Computing

In computing, we will be using drawing and book making apps to create our own e-books aimed at KS1 children about animals native to North and South America.

History

This half-term, in history, we will begin our study of the ancient Maya civilisation. We will discover who they were and when and where they lived. Then we will find out about their beliefs and rituals they performed. We will then go on to studying their number system.

Geography

In geography, we will study the two continents of North and South America, locating their countries and capital cities on a map. We will then compare North America: landscapes, climate and human geography with that of our own area. The children will then use the knowledge they have gained to plan a (fictional) trip to somewhere in North America.

RE

In RE, we will be asking the question : Why are places of worship important for different religious believers? We will start by identifying a range of special places. The children will then find out about places of worship for a range of world religions. Then, we will focus in

more detail on the importance of places of worship in Christianity and Judaism. The children will then have the opportunity to design their own places of worship.

PE

This half-term we will be swimming, developing water confidence, water safety knowledge and specific swimming strokes. We also have coaches from Barrow Football coming to work on football skills and game strategies.

Music

In music, we will be learning about the blues, linking this to our topic. The children will have the opportunity to play tuned and untuned percussion instruments and learn about metre, improvisation, eight beat rhythms, the twelve-bar blues, the C major scale and chords.

Art

In Art, the children will be finding out about artists from South and Central America, including: Joaquin Torres Garcia, Leonara Carrington and Diego Rivera. We will then produce work influenced by them, including: symbolic paintings, dream catchers and colour drawings of people.

French

In French, we will be: using known vocabulary to work out the meaning of sentences, reviewing and building upon our knowledge of numbers and finding out how to use the verb, avoir, in a range of sentences and conversations.