

Cavendish Church of England Primary School

Information for Parents
Spring Term 2017

Water, Water, Everywhere



Neptune Class
Mrs Wilson

Dear Parents

I hope you have all enjoyed the Christmas holidays with your families. It was good to welcome the children back to school this week.

Our topic for this term is 'Water, Water, Everywhere', which is a geography based area of study. We will learn about the location and features of major rivers in the UK and around the world, with a focus on The Thames, The Danube and The Mississippi. We also look at the location of settlements around these rivers and their economic, trade and leisure tourism uses.

In English, our text will be 'The Wind in the Willows' this half-term and we move onto to non-fiction writing such as diary entries and instructions and explanations. Later in the term, we move onto reports, journalistic writing, poetry and then arguments and debates. You can help by encouraging your children to develop a regular time to read each day. It can be whatever interests them, fiction or non-fiction, but reading regularly will greatly benefit them with all areas of the curriculum. There will be an enrichment visit day to a watery landscape, in our local area - the Stour valley.

Our science this term is properties and changes of materials. This will involve investigating different materials for their hardness, thermal insulating qualities, strength and suitability for purpose of practical applications. We will be using and applying mathematical skills in science by creating line graphs, bar charts and scatter diagrams to present our findings. Please continue to support your child to learn and practise their times tables each week. Rapid and accurate recall of times table facts is crucial in order to be able to apply their knowledge across the maths curriculum. In maths, we will cover geometry, measurement, ratio, statistics, and multiplication and division. We are also introducing a short mental maths session in the afternoons.

PSHE this term will focus on 'Me and Medicines and Drugs' and 'Me and my healthy lifestyle'. In R.E. will be looking at the Hinduism this half-term and moving on to Christianity. In Computing, we will be learning about interactive computer games and later creating a website about our rivers topic. In French, we will look at rivers and weather phrases and then French Easter traditions and phrases.

Thank you for encouraging your children with their homework. We had a much better response from the children towards the end of term. Homework will be set on Thursdays to be completed by the following Monday. There will be a maths, an English or topic task, along with the regular spellings. Year 6 will also have a grammar task. Please continue to encourage your child to complete homework on time and to a good standard. It is important that the homework is completed independently, so that the children have the opportunity to practise their skills. The online maths resource 'My Maths' has been reactivated and we will communicate the children's log-ins with you via the planners.

P.E. will be on Mondays and Wednesdays so please ensure that your child has their full kit in school. It will then remain in school until half-term. Please ensure your child has a coat in school for break and lunchtimes.

If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact me, either via the planner, at the end of the school day or via the school e-mail address. Please remember to check your child's planner regularly for messages. With many thanks for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Wilson