

Cavendish Church of England Primary School

Information for Parents
Spring Term 2019

Water, Water, Everywhere



Neptune Class
Mrs Reynolds

Dear Parents

Welcome back and Happy New Year! We hope you and your families have enjoyed the Christmas holidays and would like to say a really big 'thank you' for your kind gifts and wishes. It has been a pleasure to see the children back in 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 Rhine and The Mississippi. We will also look at the location of settlements around these rivers and their economic, trade and leisure tourism uses. Through our topic work, we will be covering areas of statistics. Our enrichment day visit will be to a watery landscape in our local area at Dawes Hall Centre.

In English, we will be reading 'Holes' by Louis Sachar and thinking about life in arid environments. We will also be considering the themes of trust, friendship and destiny; the children will be asked to look into their own ancestry. In writing, we will be creating our own characters, as well compiling diary entries, newspaper reports, non-chronological reports and composing our own story with a flashback to a previous generation. The children will also be reviewing books which they have enjoyed reading independently. Please do encourage them to read daily, preferably to you, and ask them questions to help them understand the text. It does make a huge difference to their writing and spelling.

Our science this term looks at 'Properties of Materials', in which we will investigate different materials for their hardness, thermal insulating qualities, strength, solubility and suitability for practical applications. We will be using and applying mathematical skills in science by creating bar charts, line graphs and tables to present our findings. During this topic, we will also focus on how to answer scientific questions, observe changes over time and group and classify materials.

Maths will continue to focus on the key areas: problem solving, fractions, decimals and percentages, money and algebra. We will be using and applying

our mathematic skills through practical activities, formal written methods and arithmetic. Please continue to support your children by regularly practising their times table facts and making sure they are still confident in reading the analogue and 24 hour clock. Children who are not fluent in their times table multiples and factors are finding the maths curriculum challenging.

In Art we will be studying Monet and the impressionist movement. This term, we will be making trout fishcakes in cooking classes. PSHE will focus on "Staying Safe", before moving on to "Healthy Relationships". This will be covered through class discussion, stories, personal reflection and written work.

P.E. will continue to be on Mondays and Thursdays and PE kit should remain in school until half-term. On Mondays we will be working on gymnastics and on Thursdays we will be running, so please ensure your child has appropriate clothing (e.g. tracksuit/long-sleeves) for outdoor activities. Children should come to school with coats during the winter months as they will need them for the playground.

Your child has an updated timetable in their planner; please share this to enable your child to arrive in school well-equipped for the day ahead. As our planned day begins at 08.45am, your support in ensuring the children are in the classroom by this time is appreciated. Homework, which will continue to be set on Wednesdays for completion by the following Monday, will include an English/Topic/Science and My Maths. Spellings are set on Mondays and tested the following Monday. 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.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Reynolds and Neptune Team