

# Benwick Primary School



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11-Jan-19

## Doves Class Link Up - Spring Term 2019

Happy New Year and welcome to the Spring term! I do hope you had a wonderful Christmas and a lovely break!

This term our topic will be 'Once Upon a Time' and we will be looking at lots of fairy tales and traditional stories. We will explore how these stories are written and looking at the common features and sequencing of events. Along with our focus on poetry over the next 3 weeks, we will be doing lots of writing, performance and role playing. Our topic will be linked to other areas of the English curriculum - while learning about instructions, we will be making jam sandwiches (for Little Red Riding Hood to take to her Grandma, of course!). We will be continuing our Read, Write, Ink program on a daily basis, where children are given lots of practise with reading and phonics.

Maths, this term, will also be linked to our topic. We are learning to tell the time, which gives us the opportunity to talk about Cinderella and how she must leave the ball by midnight! We will also be looking at number and place value, fractions, weight and capacity, directional and positional language, multiplication and division, as well as addition and subtraction. Jack and the Beanstalk, Three Little Pigs and the Gingerbread Man will all be relevant as we learn through talk and problem solving. There will also be a heavy focus on learning our 2, 5 and 10 times tables this term and we will practice these every morning.

For Science this term, we will be focussing on plants and trees, including evergreen and deciduous trees. This will link with Jack and the Beanstalk. On the same theme, in Art and DT, we are making our very own beanstalk to display in the classroom. This will involve painting and leaf printing. Also in Art, we will learn to control a pencil and experiment with shading and creating different tones as we create and sketch our own fairy tale character. In History, we will look at castles and kings and queens and in Geography, we'll look at maps and how to create and follow them. In RE, we are going to look at the 'special books' belonging to various religions. PSHE lessons will focus on our families and our communities. We will think about what makes us special, where we belong and what makes a good community.

PE is now every **Monday and Thursday afternoon**. All children need to have a full named PE kit in school on these days please. They need to have an appropriate change of footwear and a warmer outfit for outdoor PE. For gymnastics, please ensure children have shorts. It is recommended that the children bring their PE kit to school on a Monday and then leave it in school until Friday. Children must also have their hair tied back and earrings taken out for PE.

Just a reminder that reading at home with your child is highly encouraged and beneficial. Sharing a story together for 10-15 minutes every day can improve your child's speaking and listening confidence, which will benefit them in all areas of the curriculum. We recommend being exposed to a variety of texts, including leaflets, magazines, newspapers and articles. This way, children will learn to appreciate that writing has meaning that can be portrayed in many more ways than just in a story. Thank you to those who are already reading lots at home; I am sure you are seeing your child's reading improving all the time!

If you have any concerns, please feel free to come and see me, phone, write or e-mail.

Best Wishes  
Mrs Reid  
Class Teacher