

Benwick Primary School



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Herons Link-Up – Spring 2019

Happy New Year and welcome back! I hope you have all had a wonderful Christmas break.

Year 3 and 4 will now be taught separately for Literacy lessons. I will continue to teach Year 4 and Miss Farquhar will be teaching Year 3. Over the term both year groups will have the opportunity to study a range of fiction and non-fiction texts in depth. This term Year 4 will cover dilemma stories and information texts, whilst Year 3 will cover stories with a familiar setting and explanatory texts.

In addition, we have been lucky enough to purchase a new spelling scheme which runs alongside Language and Literacy. Year 3 and 4 will also be taught separately for this. Both year groups will be taught a spelling session for 15 minutes daily over the week.

In Maths we will be covering time, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, fractions, statistics, money and position and direction. During our daily Morning Maths Meetings the children will continue to practice essential skills, such as the four operations and times tables. Any support at home to learn multiplication tables would be appreciated. By the end of Year 3 children should know their 2, 3, 5, 10, 4 and 8 multiplication tables and Year 4 should be able to recall all multiplication tables up to 12.

In Science, we will be focusing on plants. We will be learning about the functions of the different parts of plants, exploring the requirements of plants for life and growth, investigating the way water is transported within plants and learning about the life cycle of plants. Throughout the term the children will have lots of opportunities to work scientifically through hands-on investigations.

Our topic for this term is 'Tudors in the Fens'.

In History, we will begin looking at the Tudor monarchs, specifically Henry VIII and his six wives. The children will also be comparing the lives of rich and poor Tudors and investigating crime and punishment in Tudor times. After February half-term we will be exploring 'Tudors in the Fens', through the life of Catherine of Aragon, who was buried in Peterborough Cathedral.

Mrs Smith will be teaching the children on a Friday afternoon. During this time, the children will be making their own Tudor pouch in Design and Technology and recreating portraits painted by famous artists in the Tudor period in Art lessons.

In RE, we are learning about Christian worship, with a focus on Christian churches. This includes the features of the church building and comparing Christian churches to other religious buildings, including a Buddhist temple, a mosque and a synagogue.

Hérons have PE every Wednesday and Thursday. On Wednesday's, we will be indoors developing focusing on Sport Stacking and on a Thursday we will be outdoors developing Football skills. After half-term, our outdoors lessons will focus on Tennis, whilst indoors will focus on pathways and patterns in gym. Children will need both indoors and outdoors kit in school so they can participate fully and safely. Outdoor kit needs to include appropriate clothing for cold weather (e.g. leggings/jogging bottoms, jumper and socks).

Homework

Topic – Topic homework will be set at the beginning of the term. Children may choose an activity to complete each week. Homework is set on a Friday and should be handed in to school by Wednesday.

Reading – Your child should be taking their reading book home every night. Please make sure that you listen to them read and comment in their reading record. At school, children will be read to daily with our class book, however, it is just as important for children to listen to someone reading at home. This could also be recorded in their reading record.

Spellings and Times Tables – Spellings and times tables will be sent home on a Friday and tested the following Wednesday. Please make sure your child returns their spelling and times tables books to school on a Wednesday so that we are able to set their new homework.

Purple Mash – Each week the children will be set one piece of Maths homework on Purple Mash. This will follow on from the topic that we have been learning that week. Your child's login details were sent home last term. If they do not have their details please let me know and I will send home a new copy. If your child is unable to complete Purple Mash homework at home, please inform me as soon as possible so I can arrange for them to complete the homework at school, prior to Wednesday.

If you wish to discuss or share any further information please do not hesitate to book an appointment with me through the school office or speak to me after school. Equally, if there are ever *any* concerns, questions or clarifications needed, I am only ever a phone call or email away.

Best wishes,

Miss R Baker

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