

Benwick Primary School



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Doves Class Link Up - Summer Term 2017

Hello and welcome back to the third and final term of the year! I hope you have all had a very relaxing Easter break and are ready for a busy new term. We are so proud of all the children for their hard work and learning since September, and now is our chance to really perfect these skills before moving into year 2.

Our topic for this half term is 'Dinosaurs', which is very exciting for many children (and adults) in our class. We will be reading lots of dinosaur related fiction books, but the main focus of our **English** lessons will be non-fiction texts, followed by poetry. This means we will be doing a lot of research by using books, laptops and iPads, which is great practise for our ever-developing reading skills! We will continue to practise phonics daily alongside any additional reading activities. Our writing has really improved since Christmas, and most of us are now able to write in full sentences, with only a few reminders to use capital letters, full stops and finger spaces.

This half term in **maths** we are going to be making sure we can recognise the value of numbers. For example, in 25 the 2 has a value of 20 and the 5 has a value of 5. We will also be focusing on multiplying and dividing. Each week we will continue to count within 100: forwards, backwards, and starting from any number. We will also keep practising telling the time, adding, subtracting, measuring, and continue to develop the multitude of maths skills we have learnt so far!

Due to the nature of our dinosaur topic, much of our **science** work will be looking at animals. We will look at the different structures of animals, thinking also about their diets and habitats. Most excitingly of all, we are going to practise being 'real scientists' by doing a lot of sorting, grouping and comparing. We will also be able to practise these skills through our topic, and in the Robin class's Palaeontologist office. This links nicely to our **history** and **geography** learning; we will be thinking about and discovering how we know about dinosaurs, and where in the world they lived. Throughout this topic, lots of big and exciting words will be introduced. We will link our music with some **PE** activities this half term, looking at different styles of music, and how we might move to this if we were a dinosaur. In **RE** we will be looking at special books, and the things we can learn from stories from different religions. For

art/DT we will be practising our pencil skills, as well as using different materials to make fossils, skeletons and even our own dinosaurs.

PE will take place every **Tuesday** afternoon. All children need to have a full named PE kit in school, with an appropriate change of footwear and a warmer outfit for the not-so-warm summer days. It is recommended that your child brings their PE kit in on a Monday morning, and leaves it in school all week to take home on Friday, as other PE lessons may take part in the week. Your child must have their hair tied back, and earrings taken out for PE.

Please keep **reading** daily with your child. We understand that they may wish to read their own books in the evenings, but it is important that they are reading their school book at least 3 times a week - we need to know how their reading is developing at home! Please comment in the reading record when your child has read their book to you, and even if they have read a different book. Children will be responsible for choosing and changing their own book when it is finished. We recommended that they read a range of fiction and non-fiction texts in the form of stories, poetry, comics, newspapers, leaflets and articles. This is important as children need to learn to appreciate that writing has meaning that can be portrayed in different ways.

Homework will be sent home on **Fridays**. Please return this no later than the following **Wednesday** so that there is time to mark it and stick the new homework in. **Spellings** will be sent home with the homework, and tested on Thursday or Friday. Please practise spellings out of order, and in different contexts so that children are learning the word and its meaning. We will continue to record their score in their homework books.

As always, if you have any concerns, queries or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. 😊

Miss Farquhar