

*WELCOME BACK and Happy New Year!*

*We hope you had a lovely Christmas and a good rest.*

*Thank you for the Christmas cards and presents.*

## LITERACY

We will focus on the following units of work this term:

1. Fairy Tales—Story writing
2. Comics—Comic book/Speech
3. Non– Fiction—Explanation text

Consistent use of punctuation is very important at this stage and children should begin to introduce speech in their writing. The children are also encouraged to use more adventurous vocabulary and a range of different openers and connectives to make their writing flow. We also expect all children to now be joining their letters, please praise and encourage them to do so at home as it will help them to develop a faster and more fluid writing style.

**Reading:** Please continue to listen to your child read daily at home. It is extremely important that you sign the reading record to confirm your child has read their books.

## SCIENCE

### Materials

In this unit children will learn that the shape of materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching. They will also explore how twisting can be used to make threads stronger and identify which materials bend or squash most easily.

Children will investigate how materials can be grouped according to their properties. They will perform simple tests to find the stretchiest material and observe how silly putty changes over time.

## MATHS

This term we will be covering:

1. Multiplication and Division
2. Problem solving and reasoning
3. Measurement
4. Geometry: ‘properties of shapes’ and ‘position and direction’
5. Fractions

**Homework:** Online Mathletics tasks or practical Maths activities will be set every week and your support with homework tasks is essential. Please keep up-to-date with Mathletics and let us know if you have any technical problems. Certificates will continue to be awarded each week for Mathletics participation.

## OUR TOPICS

### *Creative Curriculum*

In Creative Curriculum we will be doing Magical maps. Children will learn to name and locate continents and oceans by using maps, atlas and globes. They will also learn about key features of the continents. After the holiday they will do the topic 'Health' We will focus on healthy eating and how we can keep healthy.

### *RE*

This term our topics are the Ten Commandments and Easter. The children will learning about the Ten Commandments and how they relate to everyday life. During our Easter topic the children will be learning about the traditions of Shrove Tuesday and the understanding of Lent.

### *ICT*

A variety of ICT tasks are integrated into our daily learning and each week the children have opportunities to use computers, laptops and ipads to support their learning.

### *PE*

We will being gymnastics and then 6 weeks of dance. PE kit items required this term are polo shirt, shorts and plimsolls. PE is normally always on **Friday**, so please ensure kits are always in school.

### *PSHE*

Children will take part in regular circle time sessions, playing games to improve sharing and encourage team work. The sessions will focus on the themes of 'getting on and falling out' and 'say no to bullying'.

## DATES

Wednesday 6th February we will be going to Maritime Museum

The children will be visiting the map room as well as learning all about the world around us.

More dates will be put up on the website soon.

## WEBSITES

A few suggestions:

[www.mathletics.com](http://www.mathletics.com)

[www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1) (Maths, Literacy and Science)

[www.themouseclub.co.uk](http://www.themouseclub.co.uk) (fun things to do)

[www.bbc.co.uk/schools/typing](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/typing) (have a go at improving your keyboard skills)

[www.ictgames.com/resources](http://www.ictgames.com/resources) (lots of good games)

*I'm sure we'll have a wonderful term and we thank you for your continued support.*

*Miss Starodubtseva*