



Bluebell Class

Class Newsletter – Summer Term 1



Welcome back to the summer term, Bluebell Class! Both Mrs Gates and I hope you all had a fantastic and restful Easter break and are now feeling refreshed and energised for another jam-packed term! As we enter the final term of Year 5, (where has the year gone so far?) we will be focussing on consolidating our skills, increasing independence, continuing to work hard and, of course, having fun along the way!

Further Curriculum In geography, our topic is 'Marvellous Maps.' Within this, we will be looking at using atlases and different types of maps and surveys.

In art, we will look at the human form in action including facial expression, movement montages and original art. This will probably run into next half term too!

In Computing, we will be creating our own 3D games, based around a theme, before debugging and evaluating them!

In music, we are lucky to be participating in the Year 5 Festival of Song on the 24th June. In preparation for this, we will be learning a number of songs around the theme of 'Peace and Protest.' It promises to be a wonderful evening of music! In French, we will be looking at the language of food, learning to order dishes and how to ask for things, within the context of a cafe. We will continue to practise speaking and writing sentences in French.

Maths: This half term we will explore percentage fractions and their equivalence to other types of fractions; we will revisit written multiplication and division strategies and solve problems therein. We will look at scaling, conversion of metric and imperial measures.

As has been the case all year, throughout our maths lessons, we will be focussing on fluency and reasoning, ensuring these important skills are consolidated!

Science We will be researching and celebrating famous scientists, their findings and their impact on the world. This will help us appreciate how their discoveries, opinions and work affect us. Lessons will be of a practical nature wherever possible so the children learn through hands on experiences and develop their skills in working scientifically.

English This half term's work will start by continuing with Freedom Bird. Following its completion, we will move onto the book 'Children of the Benin Kingdom' by Dinah Orji. We will use this as stimulation for our writing in a variety of genres: diaries, letters, a survival guide and a non-chronological report about the Kingdom of Benin. We will be putting emphasis, not only on grammar, but also on spelling with discrete learning and practice time.

Following the completion of 'When the Stars Come Out', we will look at 'Black and British' by David Olusoga in Guided Reading. This non-fiction book looks at the last 1800 years of Black British history, alongside photos, portraits and maps.

RE: Our focus religion this half term is Sikhism, themed around the key question: What is the best way for a Sikh to show commitment to God?

PSHE Our PSHE learning continues with the Jigsaw unit 'relationships', which looks at different types of friendships, peer pressure, communicating with friends through social media and staying safe.

PE: PE lessons this half term will be on a Wednesday afternoon with myself. PE with Mr. Webb will be continuing on a Thursday morning. As the weather may be inclement, please ensure your child has **black jogging bottoms** and a **black jumper** in school, as PE lessons may be outside.

Reminders

School uniform must be worn at all times. Long hair should be tied back at all times. Water bottles are allowed (but please name them!).

Children may arrive between 8:45am and 8:55am; school finishes at 3:20pm.

Homework

This year, homework will cover a range of tasks:

- Mathletics
- Times tables Rockstars
- Reading
- Spellings to learn via Spelling Shed

Mathletics will be set – currently with two weekly tasks– as well as Times Tables Rockstars, and games on Spelling Shed. Please make sure your child is **reading regularly at home**. School books will be changed frequently and checked on a weekly basis.

This year homework will be more streamlined with tasks to be completed online (no need to upload to Class Dojo) alongside daily reading. Whilst pupils are completing their tasks, please be mindful of their online activity and ensure appropriate measures are in place to keep your child safe online.

Class Dojo: we will use Class Dojo to communicate many things over the course of the year, including class updates, so please check in regularly! If you need log in reminders for any sites, please let me know.

Finally, please do not hesitate to call the office or send an email at: admin@hillmead.herts.sch.uk if you have any questions.
Thank you.