



Danbury Park Community Primary School

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September 2024

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to you and your children to the Autumn Term in Class Eider. We hope you have had an enjoyable, restful break and are ready for a fun packed, exciting term.

General Information

Each day your child will need to bring the following items in their bookbag: their new Key Stage 2 Reading Journal, their reading book, a named water bottle and a packed lunch if you wish. In Key Stage Two they will also be given a spelling journal which needs to come in every day too. If your child gained an ink pen licence last year, they will leave their pens in school. If your child has not yet gained their ink pen licence, they will still have the opportunity to do so this year by using careful and legible joined writing in class.

The free Government scheme of fruit and vegetables does not continue into Key Stage Two so your child may bring in their own piece of fruit or a vegetable for break time. School only allow fruit or vegetables with the exception of a Friday where they can bring in a healthy alternative such as a cereal bar or cheese and crackers. Please do remember we are a nut free school.

English

We have commenced the term with a focus on writing instructions and non-chronological reports. These genres not only help students to organise their thoughts clearly and logically but also provide a wonderful opportunity to delve deeper into our current topic, the Stone Age. This alignment with our history curriculum enriches the children's learning experience, allowing them to make meaningful connections between subjects.

Following our exploration of instructions and reports, we will be reading the book "Stone Age Boy". This engaging story dovetails beautifully with our history lessons, offering a narrative backdrop that will captivate the children's imaginations. As we read this and other stories together, the children will have the opportunity to practise features of writing they have previously been taught. This includes learning new vocabulary and experimenting with a variety of sentence types for effect. Our goal is to instil confidence and creativity in their writing before they embark on composing their own stories set in familiar contexts.

After half term, we will shift our focus to the expressive use of language in poetry. This unit will allow the children to explore rhythm, rhyme, and imagery, enhancing their appreciation and enjoyment of poetic forms. Following our poetry unit, we will move on to persuasive writing. This segment will encourage students to articulate their opinions and ideas compellingly, further developing their written communication skills.



Let's Present

Every child will have the chance to take part in our Let's Present sessions on a Wednesday afternoon. You have hopefully received a letter with your child's presentation date and this term's topic.

Spellings

As in Key Stage One, your child will have a weekly spelling test, with the first set of spellings being sent out next week. Each week we will explore a specific spelling objective. Your child will bring home a list of spellings in their new spelling journal, to be learnt ready for a test the following MONDAY. There is likely to be some movement between spelling groups this year while your child's learning needs are being constantly identified and reviewed, so please do not worry if that happens. There will be five words linked to our spelling programme which will follow a spelling pattern or rule along with five words from either the Year Two Common Exception Words or Year Three Termly Words. Once the tests have been marked your child will go back to their original spelling list in their spelling journal and highlight any words they got wrong which will **be re tested the following week**. Spelling journals must be in school every day please. When the spelling journal comes home, we kindly ask that you cover these in a wrapping paper so they easily identified from their Reading Journal.

Reading

Your child has been given a Reading Journal and has been shown how to use it to share their reading journey, with lots of ideas and examples of responses to their reading stuck in at the front and back. Reading Journals are checked regularly, and children who read at least three times a week at home are awarded a house point and Book Worm stamp on a Friday. We would like to ask you to encourage your child to record when they read in their reading journals, as only entries written in full will be counted. We can not emphasis enough the importance of regular reading with an adult at home.

As reading journals will work differently from the Key Stage One Reading Diaries, if you have a general enquiry, please write this on a piece of paper rather than in the journals or email us on our class email. As well as a Reading Journal, your child has been given a school reading book. Some children may be reading books from the Key stage One scheme, while others may have been given books from Emerald Level, the first in the Key Stage Two Reading Award. Every child's reading journey will be different, and each child will progress at their own pace. The children will be encouraged to read a variety of genres, keeping track of them using the genre wall at the front and book list at the back of their Reading Journal

Mathematics

Danbury Park uses the principles of the White Rose Hub scheme of work, which involves the children spending longer periods of time on each area of the curriculum to help enable mathematical mastery. Time will also be spent consolidating work from Year Two, in order to make sure the children have a solid foundation to build on. We have begun by looking at place value, where the children will be expected by the end of the unit to be familiar with and able to manipulate numbers up to 1000. We will then be moving onto addition, subtraction, multiplication and division later in the term, where your child will focus on both mental calculations and (possibly new) written methods. For each area, we will also be looking at problem solving during our daily sessions. Your child will also have a Four Calculations (4 Calcs) session twice a week. This is an activity done in Key Stage Two to allow the children to continue to practise their written calculation methods, even if that is not the area of maths being focused on that week in normal lesson time. You can support your child's learning by helping them to practise their multiplication tables. The expectation is that by the end of Year Three, children should be able to recall multiplication and division facts for the 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 10 multiplication tables. *During the first half term, your child will be tested on*



the 2, 5 and 10 multiplication tables, before we move onto the 3 multiplication table after half term. **Each Wednesday**, Mathletics will be set which links to the area we are studying in school. It is greatly beneficial to the children to complete these to consolidate their learning

Science

We will be looking at 'Light' as our first unit of work, where we will be finding out the importance of light in order to see, and what a light source is. The children will get the chance to use torches to see how shadows are formed when the light from a light source is blocked by a solid object, and how the size and shape of shadow can change. We will then move on to 'Rocks and Soils' where the children will compare, describe and group different rocks and describe what fossils are.

History and Geography

Our topic this term is all about 'The Stone Age'. We will look at how they lived, how settlements were established, Stone Age 'building', their impact on future civilisations and pre-historic creatures. In geography, we will continue to consolidate the children's skills with regard to mapwork, use of atlases; the children will learn more about the physical geography of the United Kingdom.

Computing

We have commenced the term by emphasising the significance of online safety. The aim is to ensure that our pupils develop the necessary understanding to stay safe while using various communication technologies. This term, our approach to teaching this subject will involve a combination of 'unplugged' and 'plugged' lessons. During the 'unplugged' sessions, the focus will be on understanding how computers work, specifically highlighting that computers will only follow the exact instructions they are given. This foundational knowledge is critical for the pupils as it helps them grasp the basic principles of computing.

When we transition to using laptops, our focus will be on programming. The pupils will learn to identify that commands have specific outcomes and that a sequence of commands can produce a series of outcomes. These lessons are designed to be engaging and educational, providing pupils with practical experience in a controlled and safe environment.

Religious Education

In the first half term we will be looking at Buddha's teachings with the key questions of: Is it possible for everyone to be happy? Can the Buddha's teachings make the world a better place? In the second half term we will be looking at Christmas within Christianity with the key question of: What is the most significant part of the nativity story for Christians today?

PHSE

Throughout the term, we will discuss various types of relationships and the important role they play in our lives. Additionally, we will encourage the children to consider self-respect and how their actions can impact others around them. Our aim is to foster a respectful and inclusive environment where all pupils feel valued and understood. We believe these discussions will help the children develop empathy, understanding, and a strong sense of community.



Art and Design

During our art and design sessions, we will be using use sketchbooks to look carefully at the effect on light and dark on objects, and how to show that by sketching. The children will also experiment with different effects and textures with paint to create 'Cave Art'.

Design and Technology

During these sessions your child will design, make and evaluate a garment suitable for the Stone Age, following specific criteria given to them.

Physical Education

This term our PE sessions will be on Tuesdays and Fridays. The Tuesday session will be an outdoor sport taught by a coach from Premier Sport. The Friday session will be dance or gymnastics on a rotation. At the moment, the children are being taught the skills needed to play tag rugby. Please do ensure that any earrings are removed **and spare socks are in PE bags for when they inevitably get wet during outside lessons.**

Music and French

Music and French will continue to be taught by our specialist teachers.

Thank you for your continued support in your child's education. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us. Please do pop into school to see us or send an email and we will get back to you as soon as possible: classe@danburypark.essex.sch.uk

Mrs Buer and Mrs Eveleigh

