



Donington on Bain Primary School

Inspire, Enrich, Achieve

Class 4 Spring Term 1 Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome to Term 3. We hope you have all had a restful and relaxing break. Please find below the curriculum and home learning expectations for this coming term. As we head into 2026, we will continue to work hard to ensure your children have the best learning experiences possible. Year 6 will also now be focusing on preparation for their May SATs, so may bring individualised work home to support them further and consolidate what they have been learning in class. We need to ensure the links between child, home and school are strong to ensure there is a robust link between expectation and success.

Our Topic this term is **FROZEN KINGDOM**

Our **Geography** skills will be focused on comparing and contrasting the physical and human features of different Arctic and Antarctic regions in the role of engineers. We will delve further into the tragic story of RMS Titanic with a focus on the people on board and how their own personal geographical story contributed to this moment in history, and how these events shaped the modern world for the better.

In **History**, we will be looking at famous people and their journeys to the ends of the earth – how they survived and what they needed to do to conquer these territories, with a particular focus on Earnest Shackleton and his team of Antarctic explorers.

In **Science** we are studying electrical circuits and components. This project teaches children about electrical circuits, their components and how they function, including programmable devices and sensors. They will recognise how the voltage of cells affects the output of a circuit and record circuits using standard symbols.

In **Art and DT**, we will be exploring the artwork of the indigenous people who live in the Arctic region. This project teaches children about the Inuit way of life, including some of their cultural and artistic traditions.

In **Music**, we will be exploring dynamics, pitch and texture, using the piece Fingal's Cave as our stimulus.

In **Computing**, we will be learning about how we can use search engines effectively and safely to find out specific information. We will also be developing our online safety awareness.

In **French**, we will be familiarising ourselves with different musical celebrations and festivals in France. This develops our conversational skills whilst broadening our understanding of French culture.

In **RE**, we will be looking at the similarities and differences between Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism with a focus on different religious practices, their similarities and differences and significances for different religions and their people.

PE and Nature School days are Mondays and Tuesdays.



PROUD TO BE A
MUSIC MARK
SCHOOL
2022 - 2023



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**Children should come to school in their school PE kits on both days and dressed appropriately, including wellingtons and spare socks as children will get cold and wet.
(our next block of Nature School starts on 12th January)**

English – our stimulus for learning this term is The Ice Forest. We will be exploring a wide range of texts and poetry to enable us to put ourselves in someone else's shoes and describe the thoughts, feelings and emotions of different protagonists. We will be looking at the punctuation and figurative language associated with characters within different texts and how we can develop strong openings and endings. We will also be exploring a wide range of texts and evidence linked to the Titanic to enable us to write fact files, newspaper reports and diaries detailing various events from different points of view.

Maths – our focus this term is the four operations within fractions, decimals and percentages. We will be consolidating our understanding of the processes of short and long multiplication and division, including problem solving with both of these. We will be exploring fractions, exploring mixed numbers, improper and equivalent fractions, adding and subtracting, multiplying and dividing them. We will then be looking at percentage and decimal equivalents and how these all tie together in contextual reasoning situations. In line with National Curriculum expectations, all children should now know their times tables up to 12 x 12 so we will be ensuring this knowledge is strong. **Some children have some significant gaps with these so please do support your child at home to consolidate these with speed and stamina.**

Home Learning

Please support your child through the following activities at home:

- **Regular reading at home** – short daily sessions, and a minimum of three times every week is a vital part of children developing stamina and fluency in reading. Please record all reading in the reading record provided. Children will be heard read by an adult in school at least weekly and this will also be acknowledged in their reading record. If you would like any support with this, please ask.
- **Regular spelling practice** – spelling lists will be given for children to bring home, and children should be encouraged to practise their spellings at home, including all the Key Stage 2 statutory and common exception words. Regular informal assessments of spellings will be carried out.
- **Regular times tables practice** – short, frequent sessions have been proven to be the best way to learn and remember known number facts. A TTRS (Times Tables Rock Stars) login is given to all children and regular practice should be encouraged at home.
- **A long-term homework project** will also be set each term. Children should complete this as part of their homework and bring it to school towards the end of the term to present in class.

You are part of Shackleton's exploration team, and you need a breakfast and packed lunch and drink to go on your next expedition. Please creatively create a breakfast menu and packed lunch in as creative a way as you can. You can actually make the breakfast and lunch and take some photos, or have some fun and build it from Lego, modelling clay, papier mache, whatever you have at home to use. Please also think about the science behind your breakfast and lunch – why are you taking specific foods for energy and leaving some foods out for example – you will need to do some research on this.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at school. We are looking forward to a busy term.

Kind regards

Mrs Gascoigne, Mrs Money, Mrs Smith and Mrs Bertie-Smith



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