



Donington on Bain Primary School

Inspire, Enrich, Achieve

Class 4 Spring Term 2 Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Term 4 and hopefully some lighter mornings and warmer days. We hope you have all had a restful and relaxing half term. Please find below the curriculum and home learning expectations for the next few weeks. Year 6 will now be focusing on preparation and revisions for their May SATs, so may be bringing 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. There will be a Year 6 SATS information evening on Thursday 26th March at 3.45pm and I hope to see all Year 6 parents there.

Our Topic this term continues to be **FROZEN KINGDOM**

Our **Geography** skills will be focused on comparing and contrasting the physical and human features of different Arctic and Antarctic regions. We will delve further into the amazing feats of polar explorers with a focus on the teams of people that braved these frozen worlds and how their own personal geographical story contributed to 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. We will also be learning about significant landscape artworks and features of landscapes.

In **Music**, we will be exploring composition and how we can represent colour through music.

In **Computing**, we will be learning about big data including bar codes, QR codes and infrared technology. We will also be developing our online safety awareness including through an internet safety workshop.

In **French**, we will be familiarising ourselves with describing our activities throughout a week, with a particular focus on verb tenses and the accuracy of these.

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



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PE and Nature School days are Mondays and Tuesdays.

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 2nd March and the focus for PE this term is dance)

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 Shackleton's expeditions to enable us to write fact files, newspaper reports and diaries detailing various events from different points of view.

Maths – our focus for the next few weeks will include revision lessons for Year 6 to ensure any gaps of learning are covered. We will all be revisiting all areas of fractions to ensure we are confident with the four operations within fractions, decimals and percentages. We will also be looking at ratio, algebra and the properties of shape, including area, perimeter, translation and reflection to enable us to consolidate methods and strategies to solve problems in context.

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 – please ask if you need further resources to support with these.**

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 times tables practice** – short, frequent sessions have been proven to be the best way to learn and remember known number facts. Children should be on TTRS (Times Tables Rock Stars) regularly and 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.

What would it be like to live in the frozen world? Create a habitat or living space for either an animal or human that lives in a frozen part of the world. Create a shoebox diorama or 3D model, prepare a PowerPoint or write a story to showcase your habitat are just some examples of what you can do - let your creativity run wild and come and share your habitat with us during the last week of term – 30th March.

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

Kind regards

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



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