



Donington on Bain Primary School

Inspire, Enrich, Achieve

Class 4 Summer Term 1 Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Term 5 and hopefully some warmer and drier weather. We hope you have had a restful and relaxing Easter. Please find the curriculum and home learning expectations for the next few weeks. This is an incredibly important term for Year 6 as they will sit their statutory SATs during the week of 11th May and will be revising and consolidating all Key Stage 2 learning during this term. Year 5 will also be working hard during this term as they consolidate previous learning in preparation for their move to Year 6 in September.

Our Topic this term will be **Maafa**.

Our **Geography** will revise the features of Earth, time zones and lines of latitude and longitude to pinpoint places on a map. We will find out more about map scales, grid references, contour lines and map symbols. We will learn about climate change and the importance of global trade, and study patterns of human settlements, including conducting an enquiry to describe local settlement patterns.

In **History**, we will be studying Africa past and present, with a particular focus on Benin. We will trace the development of the slave trade and explore Britain's role in the transatlantic slave trade, the causes and consequences of the European colonisation of Africa and the worldwide communities that make up the African diaspora.

In **Science** we are studying the circulatory system. This project teaches children about the transport role of the human circulatory system, its main parts and primary functions. They will learn about healthy lifestyle choices and the effects of harmful substances on the body.

In **Art and DT**, we will be exploring Trailblazers and Barrier Breakers. This project teaches children about significant black artists and their work, and provides opportunities to analyse and create artwork inspired by them.

In **Music**, we will be exploring the music of South and West Africa and understand how call and response is an important feature of African music.

In **Computing**, we will be learning about how we can navigate the internet in an informed, safe and respectful way. We will also be developing skills using the Microbits as a way to programme.

In **French**, we will be focusing on the vocabulary, prepositional phrases and verb tenses for visiting a town in France.

In **RE**, we will be looking at the similarities and differences between Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism with a focus on their similarities and differences and the importance of belief for different people, including ourselves.



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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 may get cold and wet.

(our next session of Nature School is on 11th May and the focus for PE this term is athletics)

English – our stimulus for learning is a Talk for Writing text – Hetty's Unicorn. We will be planning explicitly for dialogue and then integrating it within our writing. We will also be studying African poetry and the influence this has around the world. We will be writing a mixture of formal and informal pieces to ensure that we have cohesion between and within paragraphs and looking at how we can use the full range of Key Stage 2 punctuation to enhance our writing. We will also be improving our reading stamina and skills for comprehension.

Maths – our focus for the next few weeks will focus on revision sessions for Year 6 to ensure they are working at their optimum best for their SATs. We will all be revisiting fractions to ensure we are confident with the four operations within fractions, decimals and percentages. Year 5 will be working alongside Year 6 to revise short and long methods of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. In line with National Curriculum requirements, we will be ensuring times table knowledge is strong, and for Year 6, developing speed and stamina with the recall of the division facts associated 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.

Homework Project Term 5:

We will learn a lot about African Art over the next few weeks. Create something with an African influence, recreate a painting, print some fabric or make a sculpture of a piece of pottery or jewellery that has an African story and influence behind it. You can even try your hand at some traditional African dance or cookery. Go on, let your imaginations run wild! Due in the week of 18th May.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at school. We are looking forward to a busy term and continuing to work together to support every child's learning.

Kind regards

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



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