

Flitcham Church of England Primary Academy

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Dear Parent/Carer,

Happy new year to you all. We hope your Christmas has been full of food, family and fantastic memories! I am incredibly proud of how far each and every child has grown over the past term – their first full term back after such a tumultuous two years prior. They have all certainly deserved their two week break!

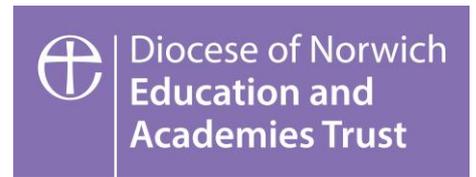
A few changes have occurred since my initial letter. Firstly, Miss Webster and Miss Hill have become permanent members of staff within our class, opposed to being shared with other classes. This has greatly improved the atmosphere and consistency of the class, allowing routines and structure to be established. Secondly, we have adopted our new reading scheme from Little Wandle into the curriculum, as reflected in our new timetable. These 30 minute reading sessions take place on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. During which, the Year 1 class are split into two groups (with one adult taking a group each). Meanwhile, the Year 2s and 3s are given a variety of tasks to complete. This involves, but is not limited to: handwriting tasks, reading comprehensions, spelling practice, common exception word practice, catch-up time and sometimes simply a reading club! All tasks are carefully chosen to consolidate important skills.

This term, our overall topic theme will be Around the World. Each subject will follow a relevant topic to our termly theme in accordance to the set curriculum. In English, our class text will be Lila and the Secret of Rain. This story follows a girl living in a Kenyan village that is going through a drought. Her grandfather teaches her how to bring rain back to the village. This book will result in children creating a non-chronological report. This text will link into our Geographical study comparing a small UK town to one in another country (Kenya). First, we will explore the seven continents, 5 oceans and the UK countries at various depths to improve our locational knowledge. Then, we will have a deep dive into Kenya itself in comparison to a small UK town. To accompany this theme, we will be learning about an important historical explorer: Christopher Columbus.

In Science, we will be exploring animals from around the world. In the first half term we will look into their diets, offspring and conduct an animal study. Moving into the next half term, we will dive into the living things and their habitats, creating food chains and considering basic needs, hopefully even creating a bug hotel if weather allows.

Our art will be centred on sculptures in various styles from various artists. You may receive requests for your children to bring in some odd and random items, all of which will most likely be for their Monday art lesson! This is a topic I can already tell the children will thoroughly enjoy. In RE we will question what our senses tell us about the world of religion and belief, touching upon Christianity, Hinduism and Judaism. The next half term will specifically look at Judaism and how Jewish people celebrate Passover.

Lastly, just a reminder of the benefits of reading with your children at home - in particular the Year 1s. They will benefit greatly from the opportunity to read their reading books at home with adult support; especially the new reading books that are being sent home on a Thursday with each Year 1 pupil as these books have



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been specifically tailored to suit their phonological awareness. Additionally, as they will have been exposed to these books in class thrice before so they should hold more confidence when reading with an adult, which is the ideal reading scenario! These reading books should all be returned to the school the following Monday, as we share our books with both the Reception class and as a federation with Sandringham. The focus for Year 2 and 3 children will be more aimed at their spellings in this regard (alongside reading at home). They still have their weekly spellings to focus on so any opportunity for learning these spellings at home will be beneficial.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards,

Miss Bartrum

Miss Hill

Miss Webster

Class Teacher

Class Teaching Assistant

Class Teaching Assistant