



Bratton Primary School

Engagement - Resilience - Integrity

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Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to Term 4 in Antelope Class. I hope that this letter gives you an informative insight into what your child will be learning about.

As a school this term, we will be revisiting our school vision and ethos with a particular focus on making the most of opportunities to learn.

Our class topic this term will be Geography based and will be known as: Extreme Weather. In English, we will be looking into the cause and effects of floods and tornadoes and the children will be developing their non-fiction writing skills. They will write, and act out, a news programme about why we have flooding and the effects of this, and then write an explanation of what a tornado is. They will also write a balanced argument about climate change. We will continue to use *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* as our fiction text and the children will work on predicting and writing the ending of the book. 'Big Write' sessions will again take place on alternate Fridays, with Talk Homework sent home on a Thursday.

As always, children will read regularly to a member of the Antelopes Team. Thank you for your support so far and it is extremely important that you continue to be actively involved in promoting a love of reading through regularly hearing your child read and reading to them. Your child will hand in his or her Reading Record each morning so that we can see what they have read and your comments. We expect the children to choose from a wide range of fiction and non-fiction books and make full use of our fantastic scheme books and library facility. We would appreciate it if you could continue to make regular time to question your child about the book they are reading, discussing their views, reactions and predictions and helping them with any vocabulary they are not familiar with.

We will continue to devote time daily to 'GHASP' skills (Grammar, Handwriting, Spelling and Punctuation). Once again, spelling learning and development will take place in school. The children will learn to use more ambitious conjunctions to extend sentences, as well as looking at subordinating conjunctions and clauses. We will look at adverbs and adverbial phrases, including re-ordering sentences so that the adverb is at the start of the sentence. We will be looking at a range of punctuation, from getting the basics right, like capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks, moving onto commas to separate clauses and then the correct way to punctuate direct speech. This will link well to one or more of our whole class goals of re-reading and editing writing as we go.

In Maths this term, the children will be looking at multiplication and division and area of shapes. At our welcome meeting in September, I mentioned a new government times table test for Year 4 children, which will be rolled out in 2020, that we as a school will be trialling this year. It is therefore vital that you continue to practise times tables with your child on a regular basis, as we are really working on the speed of recall in the classroom and this pilot test will take place in June.

In Science we will be learning all about our local environment and, specifically, the school grounds. This will include a debate about whether the wildlife area should be ripped out to make space for something different, how we can make a positive change to our environment, and the global issue of climate change.

In Computing (ICT), the children will be thinking about programming and creating simple animation. They will use a program which will allow the children to make up short animation stories using their small world settings (see paragraph below about D&T.)

In Music, we will continue to follow the Charanga syllabus and the children will be using the well-known song 'Lean on Me' to consider how important friends are. They will learn to sing along to songs, compose lyrics, play along to and compose, repeating patterns and critically evaluate a piece of music.

In D&T, we will be carrying over the activity from last term where the children will be making a small world based on Narnia, in a shoebox.

Subjects taught by specialist teachers will be as follows: P.E every Wednesday by Miss Wozniak. Please also ensure that your child has a full, correct and named P.E kit in school every day. We understand that many children take part in sports outside school and how expensive it can be to buy more than one pair of trainers, so we are happy for your child to take his or her trainers home overnight but they must be returned the next day. Your child will also be taught French every Wednesday by Mrs Lambrets. Our theme in the P.E sessions taught by Mr Browne will be football, focussing specifically on dribbling, passing and shooting.

Your child will receive Maths or English homework and occasionally Science or topic homework each week. **This will be set on Thursday, to be handed in on the following Tuesday.** There will also be a short talking homework every other Thursday, relating to the Big Write, which will take place the next day and it is vital that this is completed as it will link directly to the planning or writing on Friday.

Can we please ensure that your child has the correct school uniform, including the correct footwear specified in our uniform list: <http://www.bratton.wilts.sch.uk/uniform/>

Finally, if you have not yet done so, I urge you to get your first payment in for the residential and continue to keep up with the regular payments. I will be going along to Hooke Court on March 5th to carry out a full risk assessment of the area, and finalising the programme, and following that, we will be holding a meeting regarding the trip after half term, but in the meantime if there are any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to come and see me.

<https://www.hoocourt.co.uk/residential/programmes/outdoor-adventure-and-team-building/>

If you have any questions or concerns, I am always available for a chat after school in person or by phone and I am happy to make an appointment in this case.

Thank you in advance for your support this term.

Kind regards,

Mr Scott Browne, Mrs Lesly Whitefield, Mrs Kim Harvey and Miss Nicola Shaw
Antelope Class Team