



Bratton Primary School

Engagement - Resilience - Integrity

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Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to Term 5 in Antelope Class. I hope that this letter gives you an informative insight into what your child will be learning about. We are delighted to return to school and be teaching your children throughout the summer term. Mr Browne, Mrs Denham and Mrs Sealy have been working together over several weeks to ensure a smooth and thorough transition between teachers and teaching assistants to provide continuity for your children. As a team, we have worked together team teaching within the classroom, on a 1:1 basis and in small groups, also carrying out end of term assessments and making joint data/progress judgements, and in turn used these to plan exciting learning opportunities for this coming term.

Our class History topic this term is the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings. We will use this to inspire writing in English, such as a newspaper report about a Viking invasion and their own stories with historical settings based upon 'Riddle of the Runes'. The children will also write poems based on the theme of electricity towards the end of the term. There will be further opportunities for writing across other curriculum subjects, such as biographies, fact files and reports. '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 throughout the week so that we can see what they have read and your comments. We also encourage the children to reflect upon their own reading by writing a short commentary in their reading journal. This could be a short recount of the chapter that they have read, a description of their favourite character, a particularly funny or dramatic moment in the text or a prediction of what happens next. Each week there will be a suggested focus question that the children stick into their reading journals to guide their discussions that week in order to support the development of their comprehension skills. It is important that the children choose from a wide range of fiction and non-fiction books and make full use of our fantastic scheme books and library facility.

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 add prefixes and suffixes to words this term and how doing so changes word meanings. We will revisit the previous work on adverbs and adverbial phrases, identifying and categorising different types of adverbs and then move onto opening sentences with fronted adverbials. We will continue to focus upon getting the basics of punctuation right, such as capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks, moving onto commas following fronted adverbials 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 developing their recall of multiplication tables for both accuracy and speed through games, problem solving activities and repetition. We will also look at related facts and how we can use times table knowledge to better support solving division calculations. We will then use this knowledge to begin to formally record multiplication calculations using the written method of short

multiplication. At our welcome meeting in September, Mr Browne 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 addition to multiplication and division, Maths sessions this term will focus upon reading the time on analogue and digital clocks, improving knowledge and recall of the links between units of time and solving problems involving time. Towards the end of the term we will make a link between Maths and Computing as the children will collect data, use graph and chart software to present it and then interpret their findings in Maths lessons.

In Science we will be learning all about electricity. The children will learn about how it is generated and travels to our homes, identify appliances that use electricity as well as exploring conductors and insulators. There will be lots of opportunities for hands-on activities, as the children will learn to create circuits with buzzers, bulbs and switches. Alongside the scientific knowledge we will be teaching the children the risks associated with electricity.

In Computing (ICT), the children will be learning how to create a variety of charts and graphs to present information, as mentioned above. They will also learn to build simple algorithms to create a maths quiz using the software 'Scratch'. This is available to download free of charge if your child is interested in programming and would like further opportunity to practise at home. <https://scratch.mit.edu/>

In art lessons, children will develop their sketching skills as they draw parts of a Viking longboat. They will also learn to use water colours effectively by experimenting with techniques and papers. This will lead to the creation of a final piece of art work which will combine both painting and sketching skills to depict a Viking long-boat at sea.

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 Bufton. Our theme in the P.E sessions taught by Mr Browne will be netball, focussing specifically on passing and shooting and team work and will be cricket with Miss Wozniak.

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 also 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, we urge you to get your first payment in for the Y4 residential and continue to keep up with the regular payments. Last term, Mr Browne and Mrs Whitefield conducted a thorough visit to Hooke Court where the programme of activities was finalised, alongside looking around the grounds, accommodation and details surrounding mealtimes. We will be arranging a parents' meeting where further information about this trip will be passed on and any questions will be answered. Details of this meeting will be sent home separately when dates and times are confirmed. In the meantime, if you would like to look over the website prior to the meeting, we have attached the link below.

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

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

Thank you in advance for your support this term.

Kind regards,

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