



## SAPLINGS CLASS NEWSLETTER - SUMMER 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have had a lovely Easter break and are looking forward to a fantastic Summer term.

Our main topic this term is a history topic covering Crime and Punishment over the years and how this relates to past kings and queens of Great Britain. We will be exploring different approaches to crime and the appropriateness of certain punishments and why they existed. We will also have a clearer understanding of the impact of certain reigns over the years and who the most important and fascinating leaders have been.

This term will also see a close focus on PSHE as we learn more about mutual respect and how this links to British values and the protected characteristics promoted in schools. Our learning will also link to situations relevant to our everyday lives and relationships in the school.

To help us with both of our main topics, the Babbling Vagabonds will be returning on a regular basis to conduct more acting workshops to consolidate the children's learning and will be introducing us to some valuable role playing activities to assist with our PSHE focus.

Continuing with our maths mastery approach, the class will engage with a broad and regular practice of all areas of the curriculum. Our main maths focus will be on fractions and decimals before turning to properties of a shape. Year 4 will be practising for their statutory multiplication table check which will take place around the first week of June. The children will be given lots of opportunity in class time to practise for this test and are encouraged to practise at home using their Purple Mash login.

In literacy, after a term mainly based on factual writing, we return to narrative story telling where pupils will be describing locations, developing characters and their emotions and creating situations based on their dramatic experiences with the Babbling Vagabonds.

Following on nicely from evolution, we turn to the life cycles of plants and animals in science, closely investigating living things and how they survive and reproduce.

In art we will be learning about different drawing techniques, tools and approaches. Taking inspiration from our science and history topics, as well as finding inspiration from around the school, children will be given their own sketch book to develop their portfolio. In D&T we will learn about different materials and their various properties and suitability for a particular object.

This term in music we will begin a music journey where we take the children back to the 1960s and 1970s. For 5 minutes every day, the children will listen to a popular song from a particular year and reflect on the style, meaning and impact of the song.

As always, we are heavily promoting reading for enjoyment. Our class readers will be linked to our topics of Crime and also animal life as we read *Holes* by Louis Sachar and *Finding Bear* by Hannah Gold. Our daily guided reading will also link to our topic as we begin reading stories based on the Norman invasion. Pupils are encouraged to engage regularly with their class books as part of our accelerated reader programme. We have also produced a special book swap box in the classroom. If you have any books that you have enjoyed and finished, and you don't mind parting with the copy, please bring it to add to the box and pick up an exciting new adventure to take home. This is separate from the accelerated reader programme and some books may not be returned. Please do not bring in books that are precious to you.

Please continue to bring in Forest School kits on Mondays and PE kits for Tuesdays. Please keep volunteering for the sports activities on Wednesdays. We also hope we will have some children keen to audition for our summer play; details to follow.

As always, two pieces of homework will be given every Friday and please make sure the children are reading their class reading books regularly at home.

We're very excited for our summer term. Please get in touch if there is anything concerning you, or you have any questions. My availability after school is best on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays. We would also welcome any volunteers if you would like to join in the fun.

Thank you for all your support from all the team in Saplings Class.

Best wishes,

Mr. Whibley