**Ruby Class Autumn Term Newsletter**

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Welcome back to a new school year. I hope you had a lovely summer and are ready for the autumn term. The children have already settled into their new class and the school routine and are working really hard.

At the beginning of the term the children set rules and we discussed rewards and sanctions for our class.

**Homework**

Homework will be given out on Thursdays and will need to be returned to school for marking on Monday. Alongside homework it would be helpful to your child if you could help them practise reading and writing spellings given each week, reading and spelling common exception words and helping them practise the two, five and ten times tables (please note they must know these in sequence, mixed up and related division facts). Spellings and tables will be assessed weekly. Please note that additional work may be given to your child during the week to aid their learning.

**R.E.**

This term in R.E. we will be covering the topics of ‘In the Beginning’ and ‘Advent to Christmas.’ In the topic ‘In the Beginning’ children will become familiar with and retell the second story of creation; Genesis 2: 4-25; they will learn to recognise, describe and explain Psalms as a form of prayer and how they are an important part of the Christian ritual and they will pray the Psalms. In the topic ‘Advent to Christmas’ children will describe and explain the reasons for the preparations for Christmas; they will explain some of the signs and symbols used in the Church during Advent and they will explain the significance of Jesus’ birth for us Christians.

**Literacy**

There is a daily Literacy lesson based on a shared text which is read each lesson. We will be focusing on Fantasy, Poetry and Non-Fiction this autumn term. We will focus on two books for or fantasy topic; Aliens love Underpants and Beegu. Children will hear these stories and complete a range of work based on them. For our non-fiction topic children will learn all about the lives and accomplishments of Neil Armstrong and Christopher Columbus. They will also learn about The Great Fire of London. In poetry we will focus on space poems. Alongside this the children will complete a Big Write task, spelling tasks and handwriting tasks weekly.

**Reading**

Children will be heard read twice a week which will include their home reading book and a guided reading session. Please make sure your child has their reading book in school every day. It is important that you continue to listen to your child read daily and **sign** their reading diaries. When reading with your child in order to enhance and develop their comprehension skills please ask them some questions about what they have read, an example of questions can be found in their reading record.

**Numeracy**

There is a daily Numeracy lesson. This term we will be focusing on *counting to* *100, place value, addition and subtraction, time, money and real life problems, and shape, space and measure.*

**Science**

Our topic this term is *Materials.* Children will learn about different materials and learn to discuss and describe their properties and how they are used in the environment around them.

**P.E.**

Children will continue to have PE lessons each week. Ruby Class sessions are on Thursdays. Please ensure that your child has the correct P.E. kit at school every day (a round neck t-shirt, not a polo shirt please) and that each item is clearly labelled. Children are not allowed to wear earrings during P.E. and it would be helpful if they were not to wear them at all on these days.

**Humanities**

In History we will be looking at *Explorers; Christopher Columbus and Neil Armstrong and the Great Fire of London.*  In Geography we will focus on *The World* including *Continents and Mapping*.

**ICT**

In ICT we will be looking at *Communication Using Text and Creating Pictures* based on our topic Explorers.Children will learn how to type out sentences about aliens and Explorers and sequencing their lives and accomplishments. They will also make a poster about the explorers we have learnt about.

**Art / Design Technology**

In Art we will be learning different art skills*.* The children will be sketching, painting, using pastels and drawing from observation. In Design Technology we will make *Rockets.*

**De Bono’s Six Thinking Hats**

We will be continuing to learn about De Bono’s Six Thinking Hats. We are already using the Red Hat (feelings, intuition), Yellow Hat (positive thinking) and White Hat (information), and will be adding the Green and Black Hats this term (creativity and problem solving). The children enjoy “wearing” the hats and learning to use these methods to develop their thinking.

**Thinking Maps**

We will be using a selection of thinking maps in our work, for example Bubble Maps, Flow Maps, Double Bubble Maps and Circle Maps.

If you have any questions please feel free to come and see me after school.

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Treacy