

Our topic this term is: **EXCITING EXPLORERS**

During this half term your child will learn:

- In English we will be focussing on Traction Man and texts linked to the Great Fire of London.
- In Maths we are focusing on shape, fraction and number bonds to 20.
- In Science we are exploring different materials and looking at their properties.
- In Computing we will be using the BeeBots to understand algorithms and checking our typing skills.
- In History, our focus is the Great Fire of London. We will also be linking this to London in the 21st century.
- In D&T, we are thinking about breakfast and healthy foods.
- In Music we are listening carefully for the pulse and beat of the music.
- In P.E. we are doing gymnastics & invasion games.
- In R.E. we are thinking about Easter.
- In PSHE&C we are learning to be healthy.

Dates for your diary:

- World Book Day - **7th March**
- Easter Fair - **4th April**
- Great Fire Topic Deadline - **5th April**
- Parent Consultations - **9th and 10th April**
- Easter Worship - **12th April**

Welcome back!

We are diving straight back into our Exciting Explorers topic this half term and have lots to get involved in!

A quick plea regarding PE kits - **please ensure this is kept in school at all times and is labelled with your child's name.** All children should have a pair of PE pumps in their kit. If you have lost an item of clothing, lost property is located by the library.

If your child is involved in an extracurricular event (such as the football tournament) they will be provided with a school kit. This will be signed out to the child and should be returned before the end of that week.

Thank you!

Key learning objectives for Maths:

- Count to and across 100 from a given number (forwards and backwards)
- Read and write numerals to 100
- Count in multiples of 2, 5 and 10
- Read and write number-names to 20
- Compare and order numbers to 100
- Identify 1 more and 1 less from a given number
- Know number bonds to 10 and begin to know number bonds to 20
- Find missing numbers in number sentences
- Add and subtract two-digit numbers to 20
- Use standard and non-standard measures to measure objects
- Tell the time to the hour
- Sequence key events in the day
- Recognise coins to 20p and find ways of making small amounts
- Recognise and name 2D and 3D shapes

Key learning objectives for reading:

- Use phonic knowledge to decode words
- Read common exception words confidently
- Read aloud books closely matched to their improving phonic knowledge, sounding out unfamiliar words accurately
- Reread books to build up fluency and confidence
- Becoming increasingly familiar with and retelling a wider range of stories, fairy stories and traditional tales
- Making inferences and predictions about the text
- Explain and discuss their understanding of texts that are read by themselves and others

Key learning objectives for writing:

- Matching phonemes to graphemes to spell phonically regular words
- Learning to spell common exception words and days of the week
- Write capital letters and digits of the correct size, orientation and relationship to one another and to lower case letters
- Begin to use lead ins to join handwriting
- Use spacing between words as well as full stops to mark sentences.

A note about homework:

Children in Nightingale Class will be receiving a weekly Maths homework sheet and weekly spellings each Thursday. Homework is to be returned by Wednesday and spellings will be tested on a Thursday morning. If there are queries about homework tasks, please don't hesitate to contact me. Likewise, should your child be unable to complete their homework for any reason, please just let me know.

Please encourage your child to read their school reading book to you daily, and remember to sign in their reading record that you have heard them read, this will allow us to change their reading book. All reading books will be changed weekly as a minimum. **Please also make sure children's reading books are in their reading books on a daily basis as they may read on any day during the week.**

Finally, the government-recommended time for children in Year 1 to spend on homework is 10-15 minutes per day. If your child has worked well & tried their best with a task for that time, please feel free to stop them - just sign the sheet or whatever, to say they have done their allocated study time. However, if they are motivated to continue further, please feel free to let them!!

Topic Project:

This half term, we are thinking closely about the Great Fire of London. As such, we are hoping to recreate a typical street from the 17th century. Alongside the weekly maths and spellings homework this half term, Nightingale class will have an additional homework project - to make a model a house from the 17th century. This can be any size or shape, please be as creative as you wish! The deadline for this project will be **Friday 5th April**. I look forward to seeing the children's creations!

English/Phonics Update:

The children have now learned all the phonemes from phases 2 to 5 and are great at recognising these in words. Alongside this, we have also been learning to read and spell common exception words - this is a key area for children to reach the expected standard for Year 1. All of these words have been covered in spelling tests and in class teaching however any extra opportunities for children to practise are always beneficial.

We are also really focussing on our handwriting this half term. If you would like any further copies of phoneme sheets or handwriting rhymes, these are available from the Nightingale page on the school website.

Ways to help your children include:

- Counting and practising number formation
- Ensuring homework tasks are returned promptly
- Practising phonics and phonic activities at home
- Questioning your child about the books they are reading - making predictions about the story, retelling the story, explaining their understanding
- Learning weekly spellings (and revising ones from previous weeks)
- Practising letter formation at home to ensure this is accurate

And finally...

If there is anything you would like to check or if you have any queries/concerns, please don't hesitate to pop in and chat. After school on Mondays and Thursdays are often the best times to see me due to staff meetings and sports events. Mrs Martin will dismiss the children on a Friday.

Thank you, Miss Goodall (Class Teacher)