

HOLLYHOCK CLASS AUTUMN TERM 2019

Welcome to Hollyhock Class! We are very much looking forward to settling into a busy Autumn Term with our new class, and to meeting and working collaboratively with parents and carers to

LITERACY

During Literacy this term we will first be studying the book '**Glog**' by Pippa Goodheart. Left along by his tribe who have gone hunting and forgotten him, Glog tries to keep himself safe from a hungry wolf, making new friends (Echo, Shadow and Water Boy) along the way.

After half term we will move on to '**Tales of Wisdom**' by Hugh Lupton. This collection of seven tales from around the world explores the rich culture and tradition of told stories and the lessons one can learn from them. They provoke discussion around aspects of the culture they represent, the morals and lessons that can be derived from the stories and the rich oral tradition of storytelling across the globe.

Spellings are taken from the Year 3/4 statutory list and will include words with the long /ai/ sound spelt /ei/, /ey/ and /ai/. Words will also include the /ur/ sound spelt with /ear/, the suffix -ly and homophones and near homophones.

SCIENCE

In Science we will first focus on **light, shadows, day, night** and everything in between! We will look at how light travels, what shadows are and how they can change during a day. Then we will move on to **Electricity**, looking at how circuits work, mains and battery-powered electricity, how to make a switch, conductors and insulators, with plenty of opportunities for investigations and experiments along the way.

THEME

Our first theme of the term is **Prehistoric Britain**.

Our **stunning start** will see pupils study the work of archaeologists and what it is they do. During the **marvellous middle** Hollyhock will find out the Palaeolithic period and how the first people came to Britain. They will look at early man and different early species. Finally, the class will look at Bronze Age - where they will look at some of the first permanent settlements in Britain - as well as the Iron Age. The children will discover how iron was mined and used, to bring the topic to a **fabulous finish**.

During the second half term the theme will be **Countries of the World**.

The **stunning start** will see pupils become detectives, solving clues to identify continents, as well as learning facts about each one and locating them on world maps. In the **marvellous middle**, children will learn about the geographical features of each continent including the highest mountain and longest river in each. At this stage pupils will also investigate some of the major capital cities in the different continents. To bring this theme to a **fabulous finish**, Hollyhock will be challenged to carry out their own research into a country of their choice. Pupils will then be asked to compare their chosen country with another, looking at the human and physical features of both.

MATHS

This term Year 3 pupils will focus on: counting in 100s, 10 and 1s; place value; comparing and ordering numbers; number patterns and addition and subtraction. They will then move on to multiplying and dividing by the numbers 3, 4 and 8.

Year 4 will study: place value; comparing and ordering numbers; number patterns; rounding; and addition and subtraction. They will then look at multiplying and dividing by 6, 7, 9, 11 and 12. As we are following the maths mastery approach - using 'Maths - No Problem!' books - we will be spending longer on each topic before moving on.

Strengthening both basic arithmetic and times tables knowledge will be vital for Key Stage 2 and will play a central part in maths each week. There will be both written and mental methods learnt through a combination of written and practical lessons.

R.E.

In RE we will be focusing on what it is like to follow God.

ART & DESIGN: Can We Change Places?

We will study the world of sculpture during this topic.

P.E. - ActivSports

Children will study Tag Rugby and Netball this term.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Times tables are very important! By the end of this year, Y3 children should be able to recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 10 multiplication tables. By the end of Y4 this jumps to being able to recall and use multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to 12x12. Year 4 children will sit a statutory test on all times tables at the end of the year. **Homework:** Children will receive homework every Friday to be handed in for marking by the following Wednesday at the latest. Could you please ensure that children complete their homework to an acceptable standard. Children will also record their weekly **spelling list** in their homework books and any extra time spent learning these words will be extremely beneficial. **Reading:** Please try to make sure that your child practises reading at home on a daily basis to improve his/her skills. Just five to ten minutes a night can make a huge difference, even to quite fluent readers!! You can discuss the story with your child and discuss characters and feelings.