



Hatfield Heath Primary School

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Head teacher: Mrs Elisabeth Gelston

Dear Parents,

Welcome back, after what I hope was an enjoyable summer break and welcome to Class 2. As is our practice, I am sending you a summary of the curriculum areas we plan to cover this term. This will enable you to support your child and possibly encourage further research into certain topics. Our main themes this term will be food and later fairy tales. These themes will be explored across a number of subjects. We will begin introducing the food theme in our English lessons where we will be reading the stories, 'Oliver's Vegetables' and 'The Little Red Hen'. Children will use phonics to decode new vocabulary, predict events, ask questions, improvise dialogue, and discuss character's feelings. There will be plenty of opportunities for role-play and hot seating characters before writing new story endings. We will introduce nouns, adjectives, verbs and adverbs by reading recipe texts. Children will later have a chance to plan and write their own recipes. There will be a focus on ensuring that all children are forming their letters correctly. We will be teaching joined handwriting techniques during handwriting lessons.

Initial reading assessments are now complete and each child in the class has now been assigned a coloured book band to support development. Of course, as reading develops and children and parents engage and support at home, these usually change quickly. Reading will be assessed half termly as a rule but sooner if a child shows that they have made accelerated progress in our weekly guided reading sessions. Reading is so vitally important for children at this age, and we whole-heartedly support daily reading and the impact it has on developing understanding, pace, fluency and overall enjoyment. We aim to encourage children to be passionate about text and inquisitive in nature. Daily reading supports a child's progress in all areas of learning, and we cannot emphasise its value strongly enough. In order to encourage children to read at home we have organised a small reward based incentive. Children have been given their own Pokémon Pokédex and will have the opportunity to collect up to seven Pokémon characters each week for each day they have read at home and had the entry written in their reading diary. For those that would love to support reading more but are unsure of the best questions to ask I have sent home some helpful reading questions on bookmarks that can be asked before, during and after your child has read.

We will continue to explore the theme of food in our Design and Technology lessons where we will be examining a range of fruits and vegetables and learning where they come from, how they are harvested and what kinds of tastes, smells, textures, and appearances they have. We will learn how to handle and prepare a selection of foods safely before planning and creating our own fruit kebabs. We will evaluate the final product at the end against our design criteria to complete the project. In Art children will be focusing on still life projects drawing foods and a variety of other natural and man-made materials. We will pay close attention to developing observational drawing skills and practise shading, creating texture and composition. In Science we will be studying the use of every day materials and their properties. Children will learn to identify properties of some common materials and suggest practical ways of using them. They

will learn that some materials occur naturally whilst others are man-made. We will learn that some materials change as they are heated and cooled. Later in the term we will study a unit on scientists and inventors and learn a little bit about the people that have made some of the materials we use today.

In addition to the above themes we will be exploring significant local historical events, people and places this term in History lessons. We will be focusing on Hatfield Broad Oak as a local area and begin by studying the history behind its name, how the population has grown and changed throughout time, the history of our school and its house colours, and the local churches and inns. Our Geography lessons will involve children exploring outdoors and looking at maps to identify human and physical features in our local environment. We will use simple fieldwork and observational skills to study the geography of the area and use basic geographical vocabulary to refer to key features. In RE lessons we will be focusing on special places, firstly within our own personal experiences by looking at our homes, our school, our town or village and the special places we have visited. We will then look at special places recognised within Christianity, Islam and Judaism.

We will study the units 'Myself and My Relationships' and 'Economic Wellbeing' this term during our PSHCE sessions. Through these units' children will consider the different emotions they experience and how to deal with them appropriately. They will think about the special people in their lives and the relationships they have with them. Later in the term there will be a focus on economic wellbeing; how people earn money, pay for things and the importance of managing money and saving. The children will be focusing on e-safety in their computing sessions this term. We will initially start by completing a survey of the apps and websites that the children are currently using. We will then learn about ways that we can stay safe online.

P.E will take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays this term. In PE we will be beginning a gymnastic unit where we will focus on increasing the classes range of basic gymnastic skills. Children will create simple sequences of actions on the floor, e.g, a roll, jump, and shape. We will then transfer what we have learnt on the floor to the apparatus. We will also continue to develop ball skills in our games lessons when we practise throwing, catching, rolling and kicking. We will learn about games tactics. Please remember, jewellery must be removed for all PE sessions.

In Maths we will begin by studying number and place value by learning to read, write and order and compare numbers to 100 in numerals and to read and write numbers to 30 in words. We will practise counting in steps of two, five and ten. Children will identify the place value of each digit in a two and three digit number. They will practise knowing by heart the number bonds to 10 and 20 (e.g. $1 + 9 = 10$, $2 + 8 = 10$, $3 + 7 = 10$ or $11 + 9 = 20$, $12 + 8 = 20$) and recognise odd and even numbers. Children will solve addition and subtraction problems and apply their increasing knowledge of mental and written methods. Later in the term we will begin to understand multiplication as repeated addition and division as repeated subtraction. To support your children at home it would be helpful to practise "real life" maths at every opportunity such as telling the time, paying for items in the shops and calculating change and practising times tables by counting in groups. Now is the perfect time for your child to start that 2p, 5p and 10p collection! Occasions to cook and build at home are also incredibly valuable learning opportunities and provide children with time to practise measures within a context.

Home learning:

Home learning will usually take the form of a piece of English related work and a piece of Mathematics related work and will be set each Friday. The activities are designed to take around 15 minutes each and I am happy for the children to stop if they have worked hard for this period but not completed the work. If this is the case a brief note explaining so would be appreciated, similarly if the child has had a lot of support from you (or indeed none at all!) it is helpful to have a note. If you have any feedback about the home learning I am always keen to

hear your views. Please can all home learning be handed in on Wednesday in order for me to have time to mark it before a new task is set.

Spellings:

Weekly spelling tests linking to our class phonics sessions will take place on a Thursday and new spellings will be sent home each Friday in their spelling books.

Lost property:

Please could you ensure that all items of clothing that come into school are named or labelled so identifiable if lost. We often have a problem with identifying unnamed articles, which leads them to end up in lost property and eventually Bertie Recycling Bin.

If you have any questions or queries please make an appointment to see me or catch me at the end of the day.

Yours sincerely,

Miss, K Ingrouille

Class Teacher