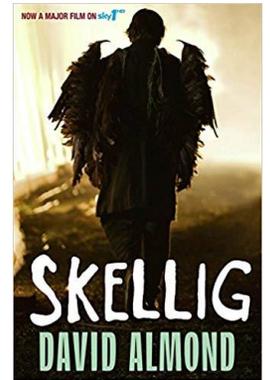


Happy New Year! We hope you all had a lovely Christmas break, it certainly sounds like it listening to the class. This term is a busy one, full of exciting learning and SATS preparation. The class have come back full of energy and enthusiasm and we have been impressed with their readiness to learn.

We are really excited about this term's topic: Amazing Discoveries, which launches on Monday. Our history and geography learning will involve us looking at all things Ancient Egyptian, with one of our focusses being investigating the many new discoveries this ancient civilisation made. Amongst many other things, our learning will include finding out about Howard Carter and Tutankhamun, investigating the geography of Egypt and the importance of the River Nile, and comparing life in Ancient Egypt to life today.

Our class novel this term is *Skellig* by David Almond, a beautiful story with a captivating plot, intriguing characters and a hint of the supernatural. Much of our English learning will revolve around the story, with children writing their own narrative about a mysterious central character. We will also be writing an information text on how to stay healthy, linked to our science topic of Healthy Bodies, and will be writing a newspaper report about the discovery of the tomb of Tutankhamun.



This term's maths starts with us looking at co-ordinates, position and direction. We then look at decimals and percentages before moving onto the fantastic topic of algebra, which proved to be the children's favourite topic last year. Please remember to encourage your child to continue to practise their times tables at home as this will really help with all of their maths learning.

As mentioned previously, our science topic is 'Healthy Bodies.' This important topic involves us thinking about the many ways we can ensure we live a long and healthy life. We will be thinking about the effect of our diet and exercise on our bodies, investigating what is in the food we eat and what we should be eating to stay fit and healthy. We will also be talking about the impact of drugs and alcohol on our bodies.

All of our art and D.T. learning will be linked to Ancient Egypt with children also doing cooking with Mrs Bamforth. In music we will continue to learn the recorder and will also be learning some songs about Ancient Egypt.



We have two R.E. topics this term, the first of which is: What does it mean to be a Hindu? This learning will involve us finding out about the Hindu religion and thinking about the beliefs and actions of Hindus. This topic is followed by: What difference does the resurrection make for Christians?

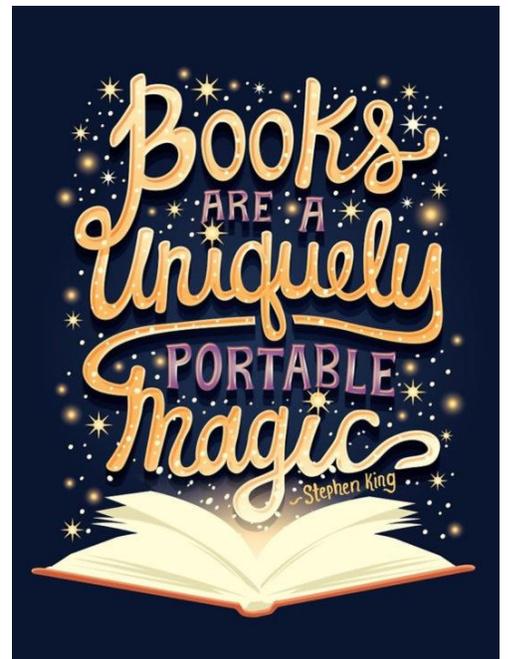
SATS week is racing towards us, and we will be doing lots of preparation for the different tests to ensure that the class will hit the week full of confidence and free from any anxiety. We will be holding an information evening about SATS for parents and carers so that you understand what tests your child will be sitting during the week, what the tests look like and how you can support your child at home. This will be held on Wednesday 30th January at 5.30pm in the year six classroom.

We will also be starting a SATS booster after-school club on Mondays from Monday 4th February, starting after school and finishing at 4.15pm. This was a huge success last year and gave children the opportunity to work in small groups with an adult, helping their confidence and understanding. We start with a drink and a biscuit which was also a big draw!

Please can children have a P.E. kit in school on Tuesdays and Thursdays. It is helpful if this is just left in school all week, in case the timetable has to change.

From next Friday, I will be sending home a piece of homework every week to support our maths or English learning. This is in response to feedback from parents and children but will not be too onerous; I will send activities that should be able to be completed within half an hour.

A quick reminder, that children should ideally be reading every day for at least 10 minutes to include a variety of genres. I cannot stress enough how much better avid readers do in all aspects of their learning. It makes a huge difference to their language, spelling and knowledge of the amazing world around us.



As always, please don't hesitate to get in touch should you have any concerns or queries. My new email address is: r.cameron@kf.starmat.uk.

Kind regards,

Mrs Cameron and Mrs Parnaby