



Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope you've all had a lovely Christmas. The children have started off the year really well and are very excited by the topics we are studying during this term.

Here are the areas we will be focusing on in the coming weeks:

<b>TOPIC</b>	This term we will be looking at Modern India and the Indus Valley Civilisation. We will be looking at what is like to live in India (food, clothes, dance, animals, traditions etc.). The children already seem very passionate about this topic! If any of you have any experience of going to India and would like to come and share your experiences or send photos/objects in, that would be great!
<b>ENGLISH</b>	Our current text is 'The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane'. The children have immersed themselves in this book already and are really able to empathise with the characters. As we follow Edward Tulane on this amazing adventure, writing opportunities will include diary entries; letter writing; poetry; play-scripts; and sequel writing. In addition the children will take part in a range of speech and language activities including hot-seating, conscience alley, role play, debates, performance poetry, and role on the wall. Following on from this we will look at information texts and instruction writing.
<b>READING</b>	The children will read daily in class and also take part in guided reading sessions. They will read twice a week as part of a group and answer questions based on this to assess their comprehension skills. Please read daily at home with your child. This will really help them with their fluency and understanding! Reading records need to be regularly updated and brought into school every day.
<b>MATHS</b>	This term we will try a range of fluency, reasoning and problem solving tasks based on these topics: Money (addition and subtraction) Multiplication and Division Measurement Statistics Fractions
<b>SCIENCE</b>	This half term we will be learning about 'Light'. This will give the children the opportunity to explore light and dark, reflections,

	<p>shadows etc. The children will make puppet theatres at the end of this unit using their knowledge of light.</p> <p>The second half term topic 'Animals including Humans' will give the children the opportunity to learn about the human body (skeletons and muscles) and the food groups (nutrition).</p>
<b>PE/SWIMMING</b>	Outdoor PE is on a Wednesday afternoon. It is very important that your child has their full PE kit in school every week. PE is an important part of the curriculum. Dance will commence after half term with a focus on Indian dance.
<b>COMPUTING</b>	This half term our unit is 'We are communicators!' This unit will teach the children how to communicate safely on the internet. It will explore a number of e-safety matters in a positive way. They will work with a partner in class, learning how to use email and video conferencing safely.
<b>ART AND DESIGN</b>	This term we will be exploring Indian patterns. We will also be making puppet theatres that links with our Science topic of 'light'.
<b>SPANISH</b>	Throughout the year, Spanish vocabulary will be integrated into our classroom and school routines. We will have one Spanish lesson per week.

### HOMEWORK

Every Friday, the children will bring home Maths homework. This will be based on what we have been learning that week. Homework is due in for the following Friday. If home-work is completed your child will receive a ticket which will go into a prize draw at the end of term! Learning log homework will be issued at the end of each half term so they have plenty of time to be creative!

Our spelling workshop is on a Monday afternoon and therefore the children will bring home their spellings to practice on that day. The children will have a spelling test every Monday afternoon. Spellings will focus on the taught rule/strategy from that week. On occasion, the spellings will be taken from the Year 3/4 spelling list or their target spellings sheet that are in their books.

Please do not hesitate to speak to me regarding anything. You can catch me in the playground or make an appointment with the office.

Kind regards,

Liz Fellows