



## Nightingale Class Curriculum Letter – Summer Term 2017

**Teacher: Miss Connelly**

**Teaching assistant: Mrs Cass**

Welcome to the start of the summer term. We hope you had a relaxing Easter break. These are a few key points that you need to know:

- We try hard to maintain good communication with parents through Home-School books, e-mail contact and using the school noticeboard.
- PE lessons will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons but we would like children to have their PE kit in school every day. They need white t-shirts and blue or black shorts or jogging bottoms.
- My door is always open if you have any concerns or need to speak to me about anything. A meeting can be arranged if matters need to be discussed further.

### **English**

Nightingales will start the summer term learning how to write a travel guide. We will begin by reading and exploring travel guides and holiday brochures, finding out about what they look like and the kind of information that is included. The writing focus will be high quality sentences with adventurous vocabulary and applying KS2 grammar objectives accurately.

Reading will continue to be a big focus this term, through class novels, guided reading groups and independent reading.

Spellings will be given out at the start of the term. Spelling patterns will be taught weekly and will be tested by Mrs Hall on Tuesdays. Please ask if you need another copy of the words.

### **Maths**

Children will become increasingly confident with their understanding of number and place value this term. A variety of topics will be covered, including strategies for mental calculations, as well as written methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Children will be able to tell the time with increasing accuracy, as well as extend their understanding of shape, space and data handling. Where possible, children will use ICT alongside maths, using various online resources and iPad apps to support their learning. Investigatory lessons will help broaden the children's mathematical understanding and practical and visual resources will be used as well.

All children have maths targets to practise in their Maths Passport. Going over these skills little and often to increase confidence and speed is recommended. If you would like any support with these skills or how to best help your child please don't hesitate to ask.

### **R.E.**

In RE we will be learning about Buddhism. The key questions for enquiry will be:

- Is the world a wonderful place for everyone?
- Can the Buddha's teachings help make the world a better place?

### **Topic**

This term KS2's topic is 'A Photo is Worth 1000 Words'. This Art and Design unit is based on the skills of photography and the study of famous photographers, as well as the role science plays in making a camera work. Children will start by researching and learning about the history and development of cameras and will make their own pinhole camera. KS2 will then move on to how to take an effective photo using a variety of different strategies and how to enhance the image using editing software on

the iPads. Following on from this, children will study famous photographers such as Ansel Adams, Dorothea Lange and Cartier Bresson.

After half term, children will move on to a historical study of AD900: The Kingdom of Benin.

### **Science**

This term Nightingales will be learning about states of matter. Children will be learning how to compare and group materials together according to whether they are solids, liquids or gases. They will also observe how some materials change when they are heated and cooled and will measure and research the temperature at which this happens. We will then move on to evaporation and condensation in the water cycle and investigate the rate of evaporation with temperature.

### **P.E./Games**

Children will be developing skills in games and gym. Mr Dawley from GoActive will be taking the children for Games every Tuesday. These sessions will take place outside so please ensure that your child has suitable kit in school this day, including trainers. Outdoor PE takes places whenever possible.

### **PSHE**

Topics for this term will include *Relationships* and *Changing Me*.

### **French**

Topics will include the weather, holidays and related activities, parts of the body and "Le Tour de France". They will also be singing songs and playing language games to help reinforce learning and revise previously learned language. The four language skills will be used - speaking, listening, reading and writing, along with some basic grammar awareness.

### **Homework/Reading at home**

Ideas for homework will be provided at the beginning of term and are designed for children to explore in depth and to follow their own areas of interest. If children would like to invent their own homework, they are welcome to! At least two pieces of homework are expected before half term, and two after half term, which children should bring into school to share.

Children are expected to read as often as possible at home, which they should record in their home-school book. Where possible, it is also beneficial for them to read with an adult, as more challenging books can be approached in this way. Asking your child questions about what has happened previously in the story or their opinion on the characters and plot will help improve their comprehension of the story and will greatly improve their reading and listening skills.

Children should also be regularly practising their mental maths skills using the passport system that can be signed off by an adult when they are confident with each skill. Children also have the opportunity to use the online Mathletics programme and to earn certificates for achievements. Usernames and passwords can be found in the front cover of Home School books. Times tables will continue to be tested on Fridays.

### **Best wishes**

Miss Connelly