



Falcon Class Curriculum Letter – Autumn Term 2017 The land of the free and the home of the brave.

Teacher: Miss Broomhead

Teaching Assistant: Miss Game

Welcome to the start of Autumn term 2017; we hope you had an enjoyable holiday. These are a few key points that I think you may need to know:

- Y5/6 Children can bring their own pencil case in to Falcon class. They are encouraged to take responsibility for their own belongings as part of their preparation for secondary school.
- Water bottles should be labelled and in class daily.
- We try hard to maintain good communication with parents through Home-School books, e-mail contact and using the school noticeboard. Please try to ensure that forms are read and returned promptly so that we can continue to offer a wide range of experiences to the children
- PE lessons will take place on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons but we would like children to have their PE kit in school every day. We do ask for white t-shirts and blue or black shorts or jogging bottoms. Hair which is shoulder length will need to be tied back for these sessions, particularly if using the apparatus in the hall.
- 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.

Literacy

Over the term, we will look at a variety of texts and genres, including song lyrics and poetry, as well as storytelling and fiction. Children will also undertake daily reading sessions as well as participate in a weekly guided reading session with me.

Maths

A wide variety of maths topics will be covered throughout the term. Children will become more secure in their understanding of number and place value, which is central to developing good calculation skills. They will then be developing both mental and formal written methods to add, subtract, multiply and divide and learning increasingly efficient methods as they become more secure with the concepts. A strong emphasis is placed on mental maths. All children are encouraged to practise their times tables and their maths passports at home and will have regular tests to acknowledge their progress. Once secure, they will continue to improve their speed and fluency.

R.E.

In RE we will be looking at the Buddhist Faith, our theme being 'The Life of Buddha'; as well as answering the questions of 'Is it possible for everyone to be happy?'

Topic

We are going on a different adventure up until Christmas this year, we will be learning all about the United States of America, the culture and how it is diverse to ours. We will also be learning about the Native Americans, traditions and finding out

about famous Americans. Our music will cover learning about a wide range of American musicians and how they influence our music today. We are also planning a 'Thanksgiving Feast', the children will research the food and prepare some themselves to tie in with lunchtime on the day.

Science

Our science over the two terms are that of Electricity and Sound. Within these two aspects of science, we will be able to link them to our learning about the USA.

P.E./Games

Children will be developing skills in games and dance.

The dance lessons, which will be on Tuesday afternoons will be to develop their co-ordination and generate their own wake and shake routines.

Mr Dawley from GoActive will be taking the children for Games every Thursday.

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 so they may get muddy!

PSHE

Topics for the upcoming terms are 'being me in my world' and 'celebrating differences'.

French

The focus will continue to be on speaking and listening skills this term and children will be asking and answering more complex questions.

Homework/Reading at home

Following the success of last term's homework, we are using a similar format this term. Ideas for homework are 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 2 pieces of homework are expected for each term, which children will bring into school to share. Spelling homework this term will follow spelling rules which will be taught in school during the week.

In addition to set homework children are expected to read at least three times a week at home (which should be recorded in the 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. We will be using book marks which have key questions on to help support children's decoding of what they have read which will also help to focus their reading.

Children should also be regularly practising their mental maths skills using the passport system which should be signed off by an adult when they are confident with each skill. They also have the opportunity to use Mathletics and to earn certificates for participation.

Year six pupils may be given additional maths and grammar homework in order to prepare them for secondary school.