



## Falcons Class Curriculum Letter – Spring term 2018 Inventions that changed the world

**Teacher: Mrs Croker**

**Teaching assistant: Miss Game**

Welcome to the start of Spring 2018: 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 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. Falcon class will be swimming during term 3 and at the start of term 4. (A letter will be sent out separately.)
- 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 explanation texts and storytelling. Children will also undertake daily reading sessions as well as participate in a weekly guided reading session with myself. Home contact books will be checked for regular reading at home.

### **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 ' Buddha's teachings', we will be answering the question 'Could the Buddha's teachings make the world a better place?' During term 4, we will be looking at and answering the question, 'Why do Christians call the day Jesus died 'Good Friday'?

**Topic**

Over the spring term, we will be looking at inventions and inventors under the title Inventions that changed the world! We will be researching inventions that have helped to improve our lives as well as advancements in technology.

**Science**

Our science over the two terms are that of forces and Magnetism. Within these two aspects of science, we will be able to link them to motion, gears and movement.

**P.E./Games**

Children will be developing skills in games and dance.

During this term, Falcon class will be going swimming, a separate letter will be sent. 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 'dreams and goals' as well as 'Healthy me!'.

**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, this 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 athletics and to earn certificates for participation.

**Year 6**

Year 6s may be given additional maths and grammar homework in order to prepare them for secondary school. Year six children will be given a separate book for them to complete this work in, it is to be handed in weekly on a Friday. I am also going to start the year six club from the second week back, again on a Tuesday. This will not just have a year six focus, but will include some team games and creative activities.