



## Nightingale Class Curriculum Letter – Spring Term 2019

**Teacher: Miss Connelly**

**Teaching assistant: Mrs Cass**

Welcome to the start of the Spring term 2019. We hope you had an enjoyable holiday! These are a few key points that you need to know:

- We try hard to maintain good communication with parents through Home-School books and the newsletter.
- All Year 3 and 4 students will be swimming at Melksham Blue Pool this term on Wednesday mornings. Children will need a swimming costume, towel and swimming cap.
- PE lessons will take place on Monday afternoons and children need to have their PE kit in school every day. They need white t-shirts and blue or black shorts or jogging bottoms. Please ensure all PE kit is clearly named. PE kits need to be in named zipped up or drawstring bags to avoid items getting lost in the cloakroom.
- Water bottles should be labelled and in class daily.
- My door is always open if you need to speak to me. Mornings are usually busy preparing for the day but a meeting can be arranged after school if matters need to be discussed further.

### English

To tie in with our science focus this term on the water cycle, children will begin the term using the story *Flood* as inspiration for narrative writing. After this, children will be studying the fashion designer Coco Chanel and learning how to write a short biography of her life and achievements. Nightingales will have weekly discreet grammar lessons to build on their understanding on how effective sentences are constructed.

Spellings will be given out at the beginning of the term. Children will have a spelling lesson on Monday afternoons with Mrs Burton and the set of words for the week will follow this pattern or rule. Children will receive their result on Tuesday morning.

### Maths

Year 3 and 4 will begin the term learning about measures including area and perimeter, volume and capacity. Children will become confident in these objectives using the three strands of fluency, reasoning and problem solving. Mental calculations will continue to be a focus during the term and children are expected to continue working on their maths passport at home, practising these skills as frequently as possible. Times table tests will take place on Fridays.

### R.E.

Nightingales will be learning about Hinduism this term, specifically learning how to understand the Hindu belief that there is one God with many different aspects. The key question for enquiry for RE lessons this term will be how can Brahman be everywhere and in everything.

### Topic

The topic for Term 3 and 4 is Fashion and we will be looking at many aspects of design and popular culture throughout time. Over the course of the term, children will have the opportunity to design a costume and create a clothing design of their own to wear at the end of term fashion show. We will also be designing 'the same but different' socks to wear in order to celebrate World Down's

Syndrome day in March. Skills in sewing will be practised throughout the term.

### **Science**

The topic in science this term will be States of Matter. Children will begin by learning how to group materials together according to whether they are solids, liquids or gases. They will observe how some materials change state when they are heated or cooled and identify the role of evaporation and condensation in the water cycle.

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

Children will be developing skills in games this term. Miss Hannah Shepherd from PH Sports will be taking the children for PE every Monday. These sessions will take place outside so please ensure that your child has suitable kit in school this day, including trainers and warm joggers. We are aware that space in the mobile cloakroom is limited. Ensuring that children have a suitable drawstring bag to hold their PE kit which is clearly named will avoid items getting lost.

### **PSHE**

Topics for this term will include *Dreams and Goals* and *Healthy Me*.

### **Homework**

#### **Topic**

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.

#### **Reading**

Children are expected to read as often as possible at home independently and with an adult, which should be recorded in their home-school book. Reading together for a minimum of five minutes per day will make a noticeable difference in your child's reading ability and comprehension over the course of the term.

#### **Maths**

Children should 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. Children will have one times table to focus on throughout the term which will be tested weekly and children are expected to exceed their previous score. Once secure on the times table, children are expected to learn the related division facts.

### **Best wishes**

Miss Connelly