



Falcons Class Curriculum Letter – Spring Term 2020 'Chocolate'

Teacher: Mrs Croker

Teaching assistants: Mrs Game

A Happy New Year to all and welcome back to Term 3; we hope you had an enjoyable holiday? These are a few key points that I think you may need to know:

- Y6 Children can bring their own pencil case in to Falcon class. These must be able to fit into their own trays. They are encouraged to take responsibility for their own belongings as part of their preparation for secondary school.
- Within Falcons, independent working is key and we promote this through problem solving and resilience.
- 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 Monday 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. Remember that the I can also be contacted on mfreception@churchfields.wilts.sch.uk

Literacy

Over the term, we will look at a variety of texts and genres, including biographies and poetry, as well as storytelling and fiction. We will be using texts to research and write about Chocolate to be able to create factfiles. There will be times when texts and videos will be used to support the children's learning and understanding of this topic, linked with our history sessions.

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 place on mental maths. All children are encouraged to practise their times tables, which will be tested weekly, 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. A weekly times table test will continue to take place, only when a child is secure in a table will they be moved on; once they have grasped all table facts they will focus on times and division facts with rapid recall as the focus.

R.E.

Our RE for the Spring term covers both Salvation and Hinduism. We will be focussing on the Easter Story and the Salvation of Christians as we draw close to Easter.

Topic

'Chocolate' will develop children's understanding of where the raw product comes from and why it became a popular drink. We will be looking at the development of the Maya Civilisation, their location in Mesoamerica and the environment in which they lived. This will help to encompass human and physical geographical features.

Science

Within Science, we will be learning about animals and their environments and conservation, which links with the Rainforest Alliance aspect of our topic.

P.E./Games

Our PE Sessions will include gym and games. PE lessons will require full kits to be in school on Thursdays, this needs to be both indoor and outdoor suitable.

PSHE

Topics for the upcoming terms are 'Dreams and Goals' in term 3, followed by 'Healthy Me' in term 4.

French

The focus will continue to be on speaking and listening skills this term and children will be asking and answering more complex questions, developing their vocabulary to be able to have a basic conversation and introduce themselves and their families.

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, children will be tested on a Friday.

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 mathematics and to earn certificates for participation. We encourage children to also sign into their TTRockstar accounts to be able to practice their times tables, with the view to them building on the rapid recall of facts; particularly those in Y4 who will be taking the Multiplication Check in May time.

Year 6s may be given additional maths and grammar homework in order to prepare them for secondary school. In preparation for secondary and SATs, there will be additional work sent home that will be taken in weekly.