

THE DREY CLASS NEWSLETTER

Dear Parent/Guardian

Welcome back to Culworth Primary Academy. I hope you all had a lovely summer break and have now settled back into your school routines. We have an exciting term planned which I am really looking forward to. At the end of the day The Drey are encouraged to exit the school from my classroom door to allow The Burrow and Nest to exit through the hall door.

Below you will find details about what we will be covering this term and some ways in which you can help your child. Please do not hesitate to come in and see me if you have any questions or can offer any expertise.

Miss White

Remember, Remember!

Our topic this term is called 'Remember, Remember' which began with sharing our own memories from our memory bags! We are working back through time exploring their childhood, your childhood and their grandparent's childhood. As a class we will compare objects from the past, investigate the materials they are made from and make predictions on how long ago these objects were used (e.g. toys, technology, clothes etc). We will be finding out about the elderly and we will discover how sounds are made. After half term, we will travel even further back to 'The Great War' and we will focus on what life was like 100 years ago. The children will need to know about the roles on the home front, animals in war and understand why "Remembrance Day" is so important. Most subjects and skills will be taught through this topic so that each lesson has a purpose and is meaningful in a context.

Literacy

In Literacy we will be looking at various stories about memories and the language/techniques used to describe them. In our lessons we will look at the past tense and write recounts of our memories. We will be learning about the features of fictional stories and building up to write our own stories. Some of the books we will look at are connected to Grandparents and the elderly. The children will use their research skills to find out information on 'The Great War' using fact books and we will find out how to set out letters correctly as we send letters to imaginary loved ones at war. We need to check our sentences always have capital letters and full stops.

Numeracy

This term we will be covering:

- **Place Value** – comparing numbers and understanding what each digit represents.
- **Addition and Subtraction** – rehearse addition and subtraction facts for pairs of numbers.
- **Shape** – classifying and describing 2D and 3D shapes and identifying lines of symmetry.
- **Measures** – measuring and comparing length in metres and centimetres.
- **Handling Data** – using Venn and Carroll diagrams and recording data on pictograms and bar graphs.
- **Time** – reading the time to 5 minutes using analogue and digital clocks.
- **Multiplication and Division** – rehearsing times tables and understanding multiplication is the inverse of division.
- **Fractions** – finding fractions of shapes and numbers.

P.E.

This term we will be having P.E. on a Tuesday every week with Mr Cherry. Every other Monday we will have multi-skills with Mr Canning. However, please make sure kits are in school all week as I will do P.E. on a Wednesday on the weeks that Mr Canning does not teach. They should have shorts and T-shirts for indoor sports and outdoor clothing including trainers. Year 3 will also be having swimming lessons every Friday afternoon this term.

R.E.

We will be looking at symbols in religion and why light is used to portray goodness. The children will reflect on their own feelings of light and how Christians, Hindus and Jews use light in their celebrations. As we approach Christmas we will be describing how Advent and Christmas give structure to the Church year. Also we will be retelling the events of the Christmas story.

Reading

From 8.45 – 9.00am there is an opportunity to come into the classroom and share a book with your children. Please remind your children to be considerate when entering the classroom as it should be a calm and peaceful atmosphere for those reading quietly. There will be an opportunity for your children to read to an adult at school as often as possible, however it is also important that they also read at home at least once a week. Please sign their reading record when you have heard them read and encourage them to include their own feelings/responses to the books they have read.

Art/D.T.

If your child does not have a painting apron or an old shirt to protect their school clothes, please can this be brought in as soon as possible and ensure it is clearly named. We will be producing artwork that represents memories and poppies. We will also be exploring simple sewing work.

Homework

The children have a creative learning task once a week this will be given out on a Friday to be handed in the following Wednesday. The children can present their work in a way which interests them; this can include work on the computer, drawings, photographs or 3D models. Please let me know if it was completed independently.

Supporting your child's learning at home

Here are some suggested activities that you can do:

- Read a range of fictional stories and pick out the beginning, build up, problem, resolution and ending.
- Explore how to pick out useful information from non-fiction texts.
- Help them to log onto 'Mathletics' but allow them to work independently and make mistakes which they can learn from.
- Make scrap books or fill boxes with tickets, photographs or items collected on walks to capture memories.
- Research fashion, toys, technology, lifestyle through the decades.
- Watch old programmes or films from the past and discuss the differences to modern programmes or films.
- Take them to visit Grandparents or Great Aunts/Uncles or look at old photographs.

How can you help?

You are always welcome to come in to hear children read, you do not have to be available every week but you do need a DBS certificate. Please let me know if you are interested.

If you can, collect and bring in any objects from the past that you feel the children may not be familiar with, e.g. records, typewriters, old money, old camcorders, old cameras, old landline phones, old toys etc.

If you have any knowledge, photographs or books of 'The Great War', please let me know.

I am always in need of plastic bags so if you have any lying around please can I have them?