



Form Five Half Term Newsletter – Spring 2 2024

Dear Parents,

In **English** we will be embarking on our new topic of 'Politics'. Our class book this term is 'Animal Farm', by George Orwell. We will be examining the way the animals hold debates and deliver speeches. The children will be writing arguments (both persuasive and balanced arguments), as well as powerful political speeches.

Verbal reasoning, grammar, spelling and comprehension exercises will continue every week. The children will also continue to answer a range of 11+ test questions in preparation for their entrance tests.

In **Maths** we will be reinforcing areas studied last term and attempting new topics such as properties and classification of 2D shapes, reflection using coordinates, volume of 3D shapes and beginning to work with averages and probability. Some of the areas covered will be examined further through investigations where skills can be used and applied to complex problems.

In preparation for entrance tests, we will be working on 11+ maths papers or entrance exam papers in class on a weekly basis.

In **Science** we will be looking at the lifecycles of animals including humans.

In **History** we will be starting our Tudors study where we will be exploring the Tudor timeline, the mighty Henry VIII, the Tudor way of life, the navy, the Mary Rose and the Spanish Armada.

In **Art** we are finishing our Great Wave watercolour illustrations and then starting a DT project.

In **French** we are very excited to be going to City of London Freeman's to perform our play, 'Les vacances mal tournées' at their Love Languages competition. The whole class has worked very hard to prepare for this and will undoubtedly have a fantastic day. From the second week onwards, we will be resuming our French course and will pick up where we left off: talking about school timetables, after-school activities and rounding off the topic of School with a mini assessment at the end of term.

In **Computing** we will be learning about the Internet and the World Wide Web. We will understand that people remix content online and we will start looking at parts of a website and simple HTML.

In **Music** we will be continuing to explore the BBC 10 pieces that we have chosen. We will also be working on reading and singing from rhythm sol-fa as well as practising the ukulele.

Our **PSHE** topic is 'Healthy Me' and we will start by looking at the risks linked to smoking and how this affects the lungs, liver and heart. We will then do the same with the risks associated with alcohol misuse. We will be taught a range of basic emergency procedures (including the recovery position) and learn how to contact the emergency services when needed. We will then go on to look at how body types are portrayed in the media, social media and celebrity culture. We will talk about negative body image pressures and the importance of making informed decisions about food and exercise.

In **RE** the children will be continuing their study of Islam, looking at the Five Pillars of Islam, the mosque and prayer.

In **PE** the children will be completing lessons based on handball. This will involve completing many catching & throwing skills before being able to put these skills into some competitive handball games.

In **Games** the children will be alternating between basketball and Outdoor Adventurous Activities (O.A.A). During basketball, they will be demonstrating an array of skills required for game play as well as understanding the rules of the game. During O.A.A, the children will be problem solving, completing tasks as teams and working under pressure both physically and mentally.

A reminder that our trip to Knole is on Thursday 29th February and the children will be wearing their Games kit on this day.

Please continue with daily reading at home. The children have been very keen readers this year and enjoy discussing their reading at school which is fantastic!

Kind regards,

Miss J. Varndell

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