



Harwell Community Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you enjoyed last term's Roald Dahl-themed project. Thank you so much for visiting our 'Scrumdiddlyumptious Cafe', it was wonderful to see the children sharing the food they had prepared and celebrating their successes with you. I hope you have all enjoyed a sunny Easter with lots of chocolate and are feeling ready to start our new project.

This term our topic is '**Growth and Empire**'. The children will be using historical sources, such as maps and photos to explore and compare the changes during the reigns of both Queen Victoria and our Queen Elizabeth II. This will include an analysis of how the British Empire was sustained, the changes in leisure time, everyday home life and ultimately, conclude with a debate surrounding which Queen has seen more change in their reigns? I am looking forward to encouraging lots of historical and critical thinking and making rich connections to our previous 'Vile Victorians' learning.

Our big question is: **Did Queen Victoria or has Queen Elizabeth II seen more change in their reigns?**

In **literacy** this term, we will be writing a great historical adventure story inspired by the tale of a modern-day girl who finds herself transported to the ballroom of a very famous Victorian Queen! This will influence our learning in **Computing** as we will be using the computer programme 'Scratch' to design an adventure-themed game. For our non-fiction text, we will be writing a discussion text to consider some of the arguments for which Queen has seen more change in their reign? This will link very closely to our historical debate.

The science-fiction classic, '**The Iron Man**' by **Ted Hughes** will be our guided reading book for this term. I will also be filling our reading environment with historical texts about the two Queens and the time periods that we will cover. I am also looking forward to continuing with Roald Dahl's spellbinding text '**The Witches**' as our class reading text. The children were so enthralled by the writing last term and I am excited for them to hear how the spine-tingling tale progresses.

In **maths**, we will be building upon our fractions knowledge and learning about time. If you can, please make connections to fractions and time in your everyday life as this will really help the children consolidate and apply their mathematical skills. For example, reading a bus timetable and cutting a pizza treat into different sizes. I will also continue with the daily rapid times table sessions to help the children's recall and fluency, which will support their understanding in all mathematical areas.

In **Science** we will be investigating forces and magnets, learning what a force is, learning about objects that are magnetic and designing an experiment to classify and test these. We will also understand that some magnets attract or repel each other.

Art this term will be inspired by the prints of the influential Victorian artist and designer, William Morris.

In **Modern Foreign Languages**, we will continue practising listening, talking, reading, and writing in Spanish with Mrs Shorter. In **PSHE** our topic will be all about 'Relationships'. In **RE** we will be focusing on Christianity and discussing the question: **What is good about good Friday?**

In **PE** we will be orienteering, which will involve learning how to follow a map with increasing difficulty.

As a school, we are continuing to increase the time that children take part in physical activity. It is important for all children to be active and lead healthy lifestyles for their mental and physical well-being. On a **Friday** children will come to school in their **PE kits** and take part in something active during the afternoon for **Fitness Friday**. The aim is for children to try a range of activities that they have not tried before or continue with ones that they love! We hope that everyone will enjoy something.

Homework this term will begin on the 25th April. Every **Friday**, children will be set both multiplication tables to practise on Times Table Rockstars and spellings on SpellingShed (paper copies can be provided for anyone who experiences technical difficulties). Children will be tested on both their spellings on Friday and multiplications daily, therefore it is in their interest to practise these.

I will be checking to make sure homework is completed each week. If you or your child ever want any support or resources to help with this please do not hesitate to ask.

We also ask that children read for 10 minutes each day. This can be to themselves, to you, a sibling or even a teddy bear. Please encourage reading for pleasure everywhere in every way you can. If you could record at least three of these in your child's reading record that would be greatly appreciated.

On **Monday and Tuesday mornings** the class will continue to be taught by the wonderful Mrs Shorter.

PE will take place on a **Tuesday** afternoon.

Some points to remember:

- If, for any reason, you wish for your child not to take part in a PE lesson, please may we ask for a written note from you.
- On PE days, please make sure your child comes to school in their PE kit (black shorts/trousers, plain white t-shirt and trainers or plimsolls, all named and labelled). School jumpers and cardigans can be worn over their white t-shirts.
- To avoid lost kits can you please ensure all clothing is clearly labelled.
- Please also ensure they bring water to school in a labelled bottle.

Our outcome for the term will take place on the **25th May from 2:00 - 2:30pm**. Please look out for an email to follow in the coming weeks which will have more details.

Thank you again for your support as we head into what promises to be another fascinating and creative term of learning! Please do not hesitate to contact the school office if you have any concerns or questions.

Kind regards,

Miss Bennett and the Year Three Team.