



Robins, Kingfishers and Little Owls



Year 1/2 News

Welcome back!

Welcome back to another jam packed half term. The run up to Christmas is always very busy as we prepare for the year 1/2 nativity performances! This newsletter will keep you up to date with everything your child will be learning about this term and any important dates you need to remember!

This term's Topic: Why was Neil Armstrong Brave?



We have a really exciting topic lined up for this half term as we explore the amazing accomplishments of Neil Armstrong. This will also coincide well with our science topic as we focus on 'Space'. We will be learning all about Neil's journey to the first and only ever moon landing! Children will be learning all about the 'race to space' and 'Laika'- the first ever dog to orbit the earth. We encourage children to research these topics at home too.

If you find any interesting information, pictures, newspaper reports etc related to this topic then please bring them in to share with the rest of the class!

Homework

Please make sure homework books are sent back to the class teacher so that the new homework sheet can be stuck in! All homework sheets are also on class pages.



Autumn term 2 2015 Important Dates

November:

- 6th- Little Owls class assembly
- 6th- PTFA Fireworks
- 13th- Children in Need
- 16th—20th- Anti-bullying week
- 20th- Kingfishers class assembly
- 23rd- Planetarium visit to school

December:

- 7th- Nativity 2.30pm
- 8th- Nativity 2.30pm
- 10th- EYFS nativity performance
- 11th- KS1 Theatre visit.
- 11th- PTFA secret Santa
- 18th- Last day of term!

English, Maths and Science

English- In English lessons this half term we will be basing 3 weeks worth of work around stories written by Mini Grey. Last year we looked at Mini Grey's 'Traction Man' books which the children thoroughly enjoyed! In addition to this we will also be spending 2 weeks reading and creating poems based on a theme! We also spend lots of time improving our SPAG skills (spelling, punctuation and Grammar)

Maths- Children will be learning lots of new skills, strategies and methods in maths this half term. These include, number & place value, measurement (time), multiplication and Division, fractions, and statistics. As you will agree, there is lots to cover! If you are unsure which methods we use to teach any of these topics then please come along to our parent maths workshops on 12th November @ 3.45pm

Science- Working well aside our topic (Neil Armstrong) we will be posing the question: *What would Buzz Lightyear see if he was flying up into space?* Children will be learning about various aspects of Space including planet names, understanding how the sun gives us light during the day, but not at night and also why we can only see the stars at night time.

Music, DT, R.E, P.E and PSHE

Music- This term's focus is 'Duration' children will be playing a mixture of instruments to compose pieces of music that differ in duration.

DT- Linking with our science topic we will be designing and creating our own Moon Buggies by using Mechanisms, wheels and axis

RE- Children will be exploring; **In what ways is a church important to believers?**

P.E- Children will be practising their balance, agility and coordination skills during P.E lessons. They will be exploring various

ways of travelling across various equipment.

PSHE- We will be discussing the topic 'Feeling Safe' children will discuss strategies to stay safe and also learn the difference between good and bad secrets.

Computing

In addition to building on our basic computing skills children will be testing out their computer programming skills using 'Scratch'. Children will learn how to create, edit and debug their animations as well as insert sound clips! Scratch is a free download and can be used at home too!



Parent Helpers/ Volunteers:

If you are a parent/carer who can spare even an hour each week, you are very welcome to come in and be an extra pair of hands. We are also very appreciative of any helpers that can support us on class trips during the year. Please let your child's class teacher know if you would like to help at any point during the term. This could be to help in the classroom, help with displays or hear readers. Let us know what you would prefer to do!

Resources for home!

Every child at Etwall Primary school has access details to a number of different educational sites. Your child will have login details for 'Bug Club' (reading), 'Purple Mash' (all topics), and 'Interactive Resources' (maths). These are resources that the school funds, so please make the most of them. Any feedback is appreciated.



Interactive Resources
www.interactive-resources.co.uk

Anti-bullying Week 16th—20th November

Etwall Primary School will be taking part in National Anti-Bullying week between 16th-20th November. Miss Lynch will be running drama based workshops for the whole school during this week. Children will be learning about various types of bullying and being made aware of what is and isn't classed as bullying. In addition to this all classes will be doing lots of anti-bullying themed work in their normal lesson time.



Maths Workshops for Parents



On 12th November at 3.45pm class teachers will be running maths workshops for parents. These workshops aim to teach parents the methods we teach your children and to stop children becoming confused with varying methods. More information about this evening will be available soon.

**Please
remember
to bring in
reading
diaries
every day!**

P.E times

Please ensure your child has their P.E on their peg at all times. (Just in case there is a change to the normal timetable!) Each class's P.E slots are as follows

Robins: Friday a.m

Kingfishers: Tuesday a.m

Little Owls: Tuesday p.m

Swimming Times

Please note when your child is swimming:

Robins: Tuesday PM

Kingfishers: Wednesday PM

Little Owls: Wednesday AM

As always, we are extremely grateful to any parent/ carer that can help with swimming lessons. If you are interested in helping then please contact your child's class teacher.