



# Preston Candover CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs. Simrit Otway



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the Autumn term! I hope you all enjoyed the rest and had a wonderful Summer break. This looks like it is going to be an extremely exciting term, especially because we are getting the opportunity to go to Stubbington!

**Our Big Questions for this term is: Why does parliament run the country rather than the Queen?**Topic/ Art- I am very excited to be teaching this brand new topic to Kingfisher class- **'The changing power of monarchs'**. I hope the children enjoyed their summer home-learning and I am looking forward to hearing and seeing all they have learnt so far. We will begin this topic, by looking into King John and the affect he had on the parliament running the country. Each child will analyse a range of sources to discover the positive and negative moments in King John's reign. We will then move onto creating a class blog, using purple mash, which will include our findings on James I. Our next monarch will be Queen Anne and whether we think she was a powerful monarch or not. Kingfisher Class will create a snakes and ladders game to illustrate the ups and downs of Queen Anne's life. Another question we will be exploring in Kingfisher class is: 'Queen Victoria is a very well known Queen, does that mean she had lots of power?' During this aspect of the topic, we will be creating an exhibit to celebrate Queen Victoria's life and reign for a pop-up museum. The class will vote for Queen Victoria's parliament's position and whether Queen Victoria was politically powerful or just a respected and loved figurehead. To complete this topic, the class will be producing a video for TV series 'Mighty Monarchs' to share their knowledge of all the monarchs they have been looking at in detail. During Art lessons this term, we will be sketching, painting and printing, inspired by Victorians: Thomas Bewick and William Morris

English- This term in English, I am delighted to say, will be surrounded by our 'Changing Power of Monarchs' topic. As a whole class we will be reading 'Street child' and in Guided Reading we will firstly be reading 'Treason' and then 'Far from home', which is a sequel to 'Street Child'. All texts are written by Berlie Doherty and I ensure you all children will be hooked! Every child in Kingfisher class will develop their reading and comprehension skills, as well as their confidence to read aloud to peers. We also encourage the children in Kingfisher class to express themselves in a variety of Drama activities. This will include hot seating characters from 'Street child', conscience alley and freeze framing scenes from the story, which supports their understanding of key events. Throughout this topic, the children will have the opportunity to write: diary entries, poems, balanced arguments, book reviews and their own story from the Victorian era. This term, we will be encouraging children to be more creative and independent with their own styles of writing and get each child to think about the purpose, form, audience and viewpoint in their writing.

Maths - Children in Kingfisher class will be consolidating many areas of the curriculum and applying what they have already learnt through problem solving and reasoning. All children will be revisiting previous areas involving place value and formal written methods for multiplication, division, subtraction and addition. Problem solving will be at the heart of this learning, with the opportunities to use the Mathematics resources when needed. Kingfisher class will also be able to use 'My Maths' and Times Tables Rock Stars for home-learning, which can be accessed from both home and school.

Science and DT- In Science lessons this term, we will be studying 'mixing and changing substances' and 'Controlling electrical currents'. Each child will become scientists that will be encouraged to question the world around them and get actively involved in lots of different experiments. They will firstly be planning and leading an experiment to test what substances are reversible or irreversible when mixed with other substances, which could get very messy! We will then be investigating what happens to substances when they are heated through cooking and whether or not they could get their original ingredients back. Each child will be faced with numerous experiments to find out whether gas weighs anything. Lastly, during both Science and DT lessons,

Kingfisher class will be advertising how to stay safe around electricity; they will create their own safe electrical circuits and find out if Duracell batteries really are the best at storing energy! We will end this aspect of Science and DT by creating electrical games based around our topic 'The changing power of monarchs'.

Computing-We will begin computing this year by re-capping online safety. All children will review aspects of online safety and make an online safety game. This game will be created for other children in the school to teach them about the golden rules of online safety. We will then have a big focus on keeping safe when blogging, so that they are prepared for when all children create a class blog based on the 'The changing power of monarchs' topic. All children will be using a safe blogging program called 2blog from purple mash. During this term, Kingfisher class will also be coding using the program 2code and creating spreadsheets with purple mash and Microsoft Excel.

Music- In Music this term, all children will be developing an understanding of the history and context of music through our topic 'Livin' on a Prayer'. All children will appreciate a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music from different traditions and from great composers and musicians. A main focus in Music this term will be to sing as part of an ensemble with confidence and precision, in the lead up to our Christmas performance. All children will be encouraged to improve songs, through adding musical instruments and working in groups to improve the vocals and lyrics of the original songs

P.S.H.E and Citizenship- Kingfisher class will begin this term by getting to know each other as a new class. Some children already know each other really well but through regular circle times and PSHE lessons they will be able to build up stronger friendships, through thinking of other's feelings, opinions and values. The children will be given roles and responsibilities throughout the school year and will have time to discuss the different responsibilities, rights and duties they have at home, school and in the community. We will also be focussing on the consequences of anti- social behaviours such as: bullying and discrimination and reflect on how images in the media may not always be reality. The children will also be differentiating between risk, danger and hazards, so that they can develop strategies to keep themselves physically and emotionally safe. A main aim is to ensure Kingfisher class are taught how to live a healthy lifestyle with positive and healthy relationships.

R.E – In RE, we will be looking at Eid-ul-Adha, exploring how Muslims focus on sacrifice during this festival. We will be discovering the meaning and the importance of sacrifice to Muslims. As well as, reflecting and describing how sacrifice applies to their own and others' lives. For the second half- term, we will be analysing the question: 'Why do Christians believe Jesus is God on Earth?'

French- We will be continuing to revise times, days, months and hobbies. The children will learn associated language and use this to write, say simple sentences and conversations. Our main focus this term will be introducing new vocabulary surrounding buildings and directions. Followed by learning French vocabulary surrounding Christmas and Christmas traditions in France.

P.E – Mrs Clayton- Shepherd will teach hockey and netball on a Thursday, while the class will be starting this term with Dance and gymnastics during Miss Brown's PE sessions. Please ensure that your child comes to school on a Monday with a full PE kit and ensure it stays in school all week, just in case we choose to do extra PE sessions within the week.

Home-learning-Maths and English (SPAG and Reading) home- learning will be set weekly on a Friday. Topic home-learning will be set when appropriate, with plenty of time to carry out the task. Spellings will be set and tested every Friday. Please continue to support your children with reading at home and encourage your child to complete an activity in their reading record, so that they are one step closer to achieving their story wings badge. Last year, all children in Kingfisher Class achieved their story wings badge, which was a fantastic achievement and this is what Miss Brown is striving to achieve again this year, as the



children felt so proud of themselves and their class. If you wish to discuss anything about this term then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely, Miss D. Brown (Kingfisher Class teacher) and Mrs Vickers (Learning Support Assistant)

