



Preston Candover CE Primary School

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Puffins Year 1 Class Newsletter Autumn term 2021



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Puffins Class! I hope you and your family had a lovely summer holiday. I am very excited to welcome the children back to school and to hear about their summer adventures. We have an exciting year ahead and below outlines some of our plans for the Autumn term.

**For the first half term our topic will be 'Holidays Now and Then' (History).
Our big enquiry question is 'Have personal values changed over time?'**

Much of our work will be topic-based with cross-curricular links to specific subject areas. This gives us the opportunity to plan topics of interest to the children as well as encouraging their interests to lead to further avenues of discovery and learning.

During our Holidays topic we will:

- Identify features of how holidays have developed over time
- Use sources and artefacts to gain information about past and present holidays
- Become time travelling explorers to compare and review holidays in the past
- Explore how air transportation is used in the modern age
- Debate whether personal values have changed overtime

**For the second half term our Topic will be 'Hot and Cold Climates' (Geography).
Our big enquiry question is 'How can we make the world a better place?'**

During Hot and Cold Climates topic we will:

- Use maps, globes and atlases to locate hot and cold areas of the world in relation to the Equator and North and South Poles
- Name and locate the worlds 7 continents and 5 oceans
- Use simple compass directions and directional language to describe the location and features on a map
- Compare two contrasting cities (London and Cairo)

Maths

Mathematics will be taught daily. This is taught in progressive blocks each term. This half term the children will be learning to; count forward and backward to 100, partition numbers, calculate using +, -, x and ÷, secure number bonds, identify properties of 2D and 3D shapes, measure capacity and volume and problem solve in a variety of contexts. It is important for children to become confident and fluent mathematicians. To support fluidity we will be using different resources such as numicon, denes, multilink, bead strings, number lines and hundred squares.

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English

English will be taught daily along with phonics, handwriting, spelling and guided reading sessions. We will link our 'holidays' and 'hot and cold climates' topics with English, using text drivers to explore in more depth. Grammar, transcription and composition will be developed through a variety of writing styles including writing lists, letters, recipes, recounts, stories, information booklets, poems, diaries and labels. We will take inspiration from each text and use this to drive our writing focus. The children will learn how to confidently use full stops, capital letters, question marks, exclamation marks and finger spaces in their writing. We will continue to develop our spelling of common exception words and apply our Phonics knowledge in our writing. The children will use their 'purple polishing pens' to edit and improve work.

Reading

We have daily guided reading sessions where the children will have a variety of activities linked to their guided reading book and Phonics. Their guided reading book is changed weekly. Every child will read 1:1 with their teacher over the course of the week. We continually assess children's reading to ensure the level of their book is appropriate. This enables us to ensure the children are appropriately challenged while equally developing a love of reading.

Home Reading Books

Please encourage your child to read every evening and record in their reading diary. The story wings grid can be found in the front of your child's reading diary. So that your child can receive their story wings badge, please remember to fill in the grid and complete the activities within the reading record. Being able to read fluently opens the door to a broad and exciting curriculum. Please prompt your child with questions when they are reading. These can be found in most school scheme books at the front or back. Reading scheme book changes will take place on a **Monday** and **Friday**. We have effective methods for assessing reading. Children will move reading levels once they have securely met all requirements within each level.

PE

The children will develop their strength, balance and coordination through team games, gym and dance. Children should have PE kits in school all the time. PE kits will go home for washing on a Friday to be brought back in on a Monday. Our PE days are Tuesday and Thursday but we may have an additional PE lesson if the weather is particularly nice. Children must have a pair of trainers for outside PE and as the weather becomes colder please add a jumper to your child's PE kit so that we can go outside. PE kits must include; PE top, shorts/joggers, jumper, trainers and spare underwear (socks and pants).

Art

We will be exploring the work and history of Andrew Goldsworthy. The children will take inspiration from Goldsworthy's concentric circles. We will experiment with mark making, painting, ink, natural resources and felt to create our own representation of concentric circles. The children will develop a range of artistic skills and techniques when creating drawings, paintings, sculptures and an abstract moving 3D picture. We will then evaluate our products and compare them to Goldsworthy.

Science

Our topic focus for Autumn is animal survival. The children will learn about characteristics of different animals and how we can group animals according to their characteristics including mammals, amphibians, fish, birds and reptiles. We will explore how animals use their senses to survive and carry out experiments to study how animals respond to a sensory stimulus.

Our longitudinal study will run throughout the year and focuses on weather and seasons. The children will measure rainfall, daylight hours and temperature in each season. We will then compare and present our findings.

Pencil Cases

We ask that all children bring in a **small named pencil case**. To avoid desks becoming cluttered and overcrowded please ensure your child brings a small pencil case that contains a pencil, sharpener, rubber, ruler, basic set of colouring pencils and a glue stick. This will remain in school during the term.

Communication

All communication will be via the school office. If you have a message for myself or LSA, please email or phone the office who will pass this on. If **your child goes on the bus please fill out the weekly timetable grid and return** so we can make sure your child goes home accordingly. We ask that you only make changes to this schedule in unforeseeable circumstances. In this case please inform the office via email or phone as soon as possible.

Home Learning

Home learning will be sent home every Friday to be completed by the following Friday. Homework is based on your child's current learning and may include English, Grammar, Maths, spelling and/or Phonics. Children will also have fortnightly MyMaths homework to be completed online.

Lunch and Break Times

Children will be able to order their lunch during morning registration, please check the lunch menu for meal options. For packed lunches please remember that we are **strictly a nut free school** so please do not send in any nuts or nut products. We do have children with severe nut allergies.

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask or email the office who can forward your email on. Many thanks for all your support. I am looking forward to the exciting year ahead!

Miss Chandler
Puffins Class Teacher

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