



Preston Candover CE Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Owls Year 2 Class Newsletter Autumn Term 2021



Welcome back! We hope that you all have had a lovely, relaxing summer holiday and are feeling refreshed and ready for the busy autumn term ahead.

Our Big Enquiry Question for the first half of the term is: ‘Was being Queen the same for Elizabeth I, Victoria and Elizabeth II?’

To explore this idea, we will be looking at the reign of each of these Queens and identifying any similarities and differences between them. This will involve discussing the era of their reign and what society was like at that time, along with identifying artefacts from each Queen. We will discuss which era we think we might have liked to live in depending on the Queen at that time.

Our Big Enquiry Question for the second half of the term is ‘Is Kota Kinabalu a world away from our local area?’

To help us answer this question, we will be exploring where Kota Kinabalu is in the world using our map skills and will look at the similarities and differences between here and where we live. We will discuss how the differences might change other aspects of our lives to help us understand if we are completely different places to live.

English

This term in English, we will start by reading a book which is linked to our first history topic – Queens: Lives and Times. The book, ‘The Queen’s Knickers’ by Nicholas Allan will give the children the opportunity to learn more about the monarchy in a fun way through descriptive writing. This book will focus on describing a palace, the various knickers the Queen uses in the story and how the other characters in the story might feel. We will be focusing on using capital letters and full stops correctly, along with exclamation marks, question marks and using expanded noun phrases in our writing. Our end goal will be to use our descriptive writing skills to design a pair of knickers for the Queen for our class catalogue and to write a report on the missing knickers.

We will then move on to studying ‘That Rabbit belongs to Emily Brown’ by Cressida Cowell. During this learning journey, we will continue to develop our knowledge of descriptive writing, specifically looking at how to write an account of their own favourite toy, ensuring we continue to use expanded noun phrases and the correct use of punctuation. The children will end this term by creative a narrative of their own innovation using their favourite toy. By this stage, the children will be able to notice how their writing has improved through the use of a varied and rich vocabulary. We encourage the children in Owls class to express themselves through creativity and imagination throughout their work.

As a whole class we will be reading ‘The Glassmakers Daughter’ by Dianne Hofmeyr.

Please also continue to hear your child read at home; it is an opportunity to enjoy stories together, discuss new words and ask questions about character and plot. Please make sure your child's book and reading record are in school every day.

Maths

In Maths this term we will be developing our knowledge of number and place value by estimating and counting a number of objects up to 100 and locating numbers on 0-100 beaded lines and squares. This will include being able to represent numbers using different representations by comparing pairs of numbers, finding numbers in-between amounts and ordering numbers.

We will look at building upon our mental strategies for calculation by developing our fluency in using number bonds to 100 to solve more difficult additions and practising our doubling skills. Further on in the term we will work on our knowledge of 2D shapes according to symmetry, properties and venn diagrams, alongside using signs to order and compare numbers through working systematically to find all possible inequalities. We will be developing both our problem solving skill and mental strategies within our work.

Science

In science this term, the children will be studying 'clothes – materials and their properties'. Each child will take on the role of scientists who need to investigate different materials and discover what makes them different to one another. We will understand that materials have describable properties which distinguish them from one another and how materials can change shape and form through twisting, bending, squashing and stretching. Our aim will be to investigate which material will be most appropriate to use for a coat.

After half term we will look at 'simple animal life time-lines' where the children will investigate the different stages animals go through in their lives including humans. This will lead onto understanding that all animals require a healthy diet and that eventually, all animals eventually die. We will also learn about how important hygiene is and how this links to keeping ourselves healthy.

Our longitudinal study this term will involve examining how the habitat and types of plants and animals living around a tree varies throughout the seasons.

History

We will be learning all about Queens: their lives and time and looking at whether being Queen meant the same roles and responsibilities for each of the 3 Queens. To help us decide, we will be understanding what a monarch is. This will be through exploring what royals wear, eat, their job etc. Then, we will consider how different their reigns were by looking at the time of their reign and the differences within society at the time. To help us distinguish similarities and differences, we will become history detectives and take a look at artefacts belonging to each Queen and understand how far apart their reigns were by creating our own timeline.

Geography

Throughout this term, we will be comparing our local area to Kota Kinabalu in Malaysia. One of the first things we will identify is where Kota Kinabalu is using our map skills and plotting a journey from the UK. An important task will be to locate the nearby continents and oceans to familiarise ourselves with the world map. We will then carry out fieldwork to identify the human and physical features in both places and compare the weather and climate to our own. This will lead us on to explaining how the difference in weather in both places might affect the lives of the local people and how identify how our lives differ as a result.

Art

In Art this term we will be learning about the artist Andy Goldsworthy and his style of work. The children will create their own natural sculptures using salt dough and will focus on adding textures and detail. We will collect the items for our sculptures which will require careful thinking and planning to create a eye-catching design. Throughout this term we will develop our ability to discuss natural sculptures using key vocabulary.

Design and Technology

In Design and Technology this term we will be exploring a variety of fabrics and joining these together by stitching to create a fabric face. This will involve using seam allowances and back stitch using a fine needle and thread whilst taking careful measurements. Before creating our own product, we will explore and evaluate a range of existing fabric dolls and identify which is the best material to use.

Computing

This term, our computing will cover basic skills such as how to open files, resize and images and to understand that a computer is a part of information technology. We will understand simple guidance for using information technology in different environments. We will also experience the process of capturing a digital photo in both landscape and portrait format and explain why a photo looks better in a certain format. Using tools to achieve a desired effect and being able to express our thoughts and ideas will also be covered.

Religious Education (RE)

In RE this term we will be learning about bread as a symbol. This will include describing some of the key Christian and Hindu symbols and relating this to ourselves. As we draw closer to Christmas, we will be learning about the Angels at Christmas.

French

We will understand how to say everyday classroom language for the registers and to each other. We will respond to and use simple sentences using vocabulary related to family members through listening to the spoken language. This term we will also look at the similarities and differences between the UK and France.

Physical Education (PE)

In PE this term, we will be taking part in two sessions per week, starting off with invasion games and Dance (sea creatures). Throughout the second half term we will continue to take part in invasion games in the style of netball during one of our sessions, whilst the other session will change to Gym. 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.

Music

In music this term, all children will be developing an understanding of South African music through five songs. All children will use their voices and instruments using the C and D note and listen and clap back rhythms. As we approach Christmas, we will focus on the Christmas song Ho Ho Ho. We will add high and low sounds and pitch whilst playing instruments.

PSHE & Citizenship

We will be starting this term looking at relationships to others and describe similarities and differences. between males and females. We will discuss what it means to be a good friend and how everyone is equal and valued. Alongside this, we will identify some things that contribute to our own identities.

Home Learning

Maths

A 'Mymaths' and 'Timestable Rockstars', will be set each week which will need to be completed by the following Friday. Additional maths homework will be set on alternate Fridays.

If your child has misplaced their log ins, please don't hesitate to contact us and we will be more than happy to print off a new one for them.

Reading Comprehension/Grammar

This will be set on alternate Friday, to be handed in the following Friday.

Spellings

These will be set on Friday to be tested on the following Friday.

Reading Records

These will be checked during guided reading sessions, so please can you ensure that your child has their reading record with them each day at school.

If you have any queries or concerns at any point during your child's time in Owls class, please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to working with you and your children this year.

Many thanks

Miss McPhee

(Owls Class Teacher)

Love Hope Justice

