



Preston Candover CE Primary School

Preston Candover, Basingstoke, RG25 2EE

Telephone: 01256 389278

Email: admin@prestoncandover.hants.sch.uk

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.

Our Big Question for the first half of the term is: What was the Roman Empire's most significant impact in Britain?

First half- term Topic and Art- Roman Britain-I hope the children enjoyed learning about Roman Britain in their summer home-learning. I am looking forward to seeing all they have learnt so far and displaying it in our new classroom. Within this topic, we will be examining how Roman control expanded across Europe and discovering why the Romans decided to invade Britain. From this, the children will research and explore what impact the Romans had on Britain and decide what changes were made and what aspects of life stayed the same under the Romans and for a period after they left. All children will have the opportunity to share their learning in lots of creative ways including producing a TV programme. We will also be incorporating Roman Britain into our Art lessons where we will be studying the work of Pietro Cavallini, who was an Italian painter and mosaic designer working during the late Middle Ages. The children will understand how historians learn about the Romans through studying their mosaics. This will lead onto all children creating their own mosaic patterns through printing and digital art.

Our Big Question for the second half of the term is: Can we save the world?

Second half- term Topic – Eco- Heroes-This is an extremely exciting new topic, which I think Owls will really enjoy because of their love for nature, which they shared with us on their transition days. Many children put as their targets to protect nature and save animals, and this is something we will help them achieve. I really think Owls class will make a huge difference to our homes, school, local community, and hopefully wider world. They will be exploring environmental issues and will be learning how to protect our world. Our main focusses will be on saving water, pollution, sustainability, deforestation, and climate change. All children will understand that we all have a responsibility to save our world and our aim is to help the children to help others. We want the children to recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things but to know they can help protect them. This topic allows the children to get involved with class debates, learn how to present their findings about something they feel passionate about to an audience and most importantly become eco- heroes!

English- The first term in English, I am delighted to say, will be surrounded by our 'Roman Britain' topic. As a whole class we will be reading a variety of myths from *The Romans: Gods, Emperors & Dormice* by Marcia Williams, and *The Orchard Book of Roman Myths* by Geraldine McCaughrean. The second term of English will include texts that include our world, nature, and animals, which will support the children's interests. We will begin by exploring *Tidy* by Emily Gravett alongside the Poem *Litter Lout* by Sue Cowling. The children will then read *Meerkat Mail* also by Emily Gravett. Our final texts of the term will be *Dear Greenpeace* by Simon James and *Tuesday* by David Wiesner. Every child will develop their reading and comprehension skills, as well as their confidence to read aloud to peers. We encourage the children to express themselves in a variety of Drama activities. All children will have the opportunity to write: a myth, persuasive letter, shape poem, newspaper report and many awe and wonder, journey stories. This term, we will be encouraging children to use the strongest vocabulary they can and ensure they use the resources around them to help with spelling, phonics, punctuation, grammar, and handwriting.

Maths – Children in Owls class will be we will be learning more about number and place value, aspects of mental addition and subtraction, multiplication, and division. We will also look at Geometry, 3D shape and measurement. Problem solving will be at the heart of this learning, with the opportunities to use the Mathematics resources when needed. Owls 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. By the end of Year 2, we aim for all children to know their 2, 5 and 10-times tables and by the end of year 3, children should also know their 3, 4 and 8 times tables. Please can you help your child practice these regularly at home and encourage them to use Times Tables Rock Stars.

Science and DT- In Science lessons this term, we will start by studying 'light'. All children will learn that we need light to help us see and what natural and artificial sources give us light. Children will experiment with different materials and decide which are transparent, translucent, and opaque. Our final experiment will be testing materials for the key question 'which is the best reflector?' this will be put to a real- life situation when the children design their own reflective bag for school. Our Science and DT topic is 'Electricity'. Firstly, we will explore the dangers with electricity, and we will create safety posters. They will then investigate a range of different batteries, including making their own lemon battery to use, which will light a bulb, and turn a motor. In the DT unit, children will develop understanding about series and parallel circuits and different types of switches. They will then be given the chance to apply their knowledge about electric circuits in a purposeful way by designing and making a battery-operated light, which will be controlled by a homemade switch. Children will decide upon the design criteria for the light by considering who will use it, where it will be used and what for. Finally, children will complete a detailed evaluation of their final product.

Music- In Music this term, all children will be developing an understanding of the history and context of music through our topic 'Lean on me'. All children will appreciate a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music from great composers and musicians. All children will be encouraged to find the pulse of the music, listen, and recall sound with increasing aural memory. We will support the children to sing a song in multiple parts with confidence. To achieve this they will practise, rehearse, and perform to an audience.

P.S.H.E and Citizenship- Owl's class will begin this term by getting to know each other as a new class. Some children already know each other 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. All children will understand school rules about health and safety, and how to help by following simple health routines to help reduce spread of bacteria and viruses. All pupils will reflect on and celebrate their achievements, identify their strengths, areas for improvement, set high aspirations and goals for the exciting year ahead. All children will have time to discuss the different responsibilities, rights and duties they have at home, school and in the community and how they can help others.

RE – In RE, we will be looking at 'the symbol of light', with a focus on Diwali. All children will describe how the concept of light is contextualised in Hinduism. They will evaluate the value of human's experiences of the symbol of light and describe their own responses to the symbol of light and how this applies to their own lives. Our second RE topic of the term is 'Icons of Christmas'. All children will explore the value of Christians experiences of the symbol of imagery and describe their own thoughts and compare this to their own lives.

French-The children will learn associated language and use this to write, say simple sentences and engage in conversations. All children will have the opportunity to listen, engage and appreciate stories. Our focus this term will be introducing new vocabulary such as: numbers to 10 and beyond, greetings, basic conversation to introduce oneself, colours, days of the week and months of the year. Followed by learning French vocabulary surrounding Christmas traditions and how there are similar or different to our own.

PE- Owls class will gain fundamental skills such as spatial awareness, co-ordination, throwing, catching, sending, striking, and receiving through invasion games. Our second session of PE will be gymnastics, where they will develop ways to travel using different levels and parts of their body, learn how to create and perform basic sequence. Finally, all children will be expressing themselves through dance, exploring different weather, which connects well with our eco- hero topic.

Lunch and Break Times- We ask that all children bring a packed lunch until the week beginning 14th September. Children will be able to have a school dinner from Monday 14th September. Menu information to follow. Children will initially be using the classrooms to eat lunch with their teacher. Tables will be wiped down before and afterwards. Children will then have an outside break with their bubble group. 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 in the class.

Home- learning- Daily reading, weekly spellings, Timetable Rockstars, a weekly My Maths activity and a weekly English task. All homework will remain online. Homework will be set on Google Classroom every Friday to be completed and uploaded by the following Friday. We will be training the children how to use the Google Classroom tools effectively. Throughout the year, we will be setting some topic home- learning to match with the learning they are doing in class. All children will be given enough time to complete this.

Home Reading Books- Each class will have their own set of reading books. Please continue to support your children with reading at home, try to hear them read regularly (recording in their reading records) and encourage your child to complete a learning tool in their reading record, so that they are one step closer to achieving their story wings badge. Your child can read poetry, fiction, non-fiction, comics, newspapers – so that they are reading for pleasure and enjoyment! 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. The children will place their books into a quarantine box where they will be left for 72 hours before being shelved. We have effective methods for assessing reading. Children will move reading levels once they have securely met all requirements within that level.

Equipment- All children will be expected to come back in full school uniform and can return to school using their normal bags/book bags and PE kits. Children must not bring any toys into school. Your child will need a named PE kit in school from Monday to Friday, please ensure if it gets taken home to be washed over the weekend that it is back in school on Monday. We also ask that all children bring a small named pencil case that can be wiped down. They should have a pencil, sharpener, rubber, ruler, basic set of colouring pencils and a glue stick. This will remain in school during the term

Additional Information- Please make sure you have read Mrs Otway's Newsletter entitled 'school plans for full re-opening in September' which sets out all procedures in detail.

If you wish to discuss anything about this term, then please do not hesitate to contact me through emailing the school office.



PLEASE REFRAIN FROM BRINGING YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL IF THEY HAVE ANY COVID RELATED SYMPTONS.
Many thanks.

Drop off and Collection

	Drop off time	Drop off location	Collection time	Collection location
Owls	8:50 – 9:00	School drive (please follow the one-way system)	3:00	Field/vehicle gate (please follow the one-way system)
Bus children	8:45 - 8:50	As usual	3:05 - 3:10	As usual

Yours sincerely, Miss D. Brown (Owls Class teacher) and Mrs V. Mas (Owls Class LSA)