



Preston Candover CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs. Simrit Otway

Kites and Kestrels

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school. We hope that you enjoyed your Christmas holidays. We are looking forward to welcoming everyone back.

Our Big Enquiry Question for Spring 1: Why did the unsinkable Titanic sink?

Our Big Enquiry Question for Spring 2: Is Kota Kinabalu a world away from our local area?

History – Our focus this term will be to find out about the key events of the Titanic disaster and understand why we remember this significant event in history. We will explore what made the Titanic so special and popular amongst all the different social classes and understand why it sank.

Geography – We will explore the small area around Kota Kinabalu in Malaysia to see how the area is similar and different to their local area using geographical vocabulary to refer to key physical and features. We will find out about the weather and climate of Kota Kinabalu and compare it to Preston Candover; discussing how these differences affect people in both places in terms of jobs, school and clothing.

English - English will be taught daily along with phonics, handwriting, spelling and group reading sessions. We will be finding out about Winter and hibernation through our key text drivers: 'Goodbye Autumn, Hello Winter' and 'Winter sleep'. Grammar, transcription and composition will be developed through a variety of writing outcomes including information booklets, recounts, predictions, labels and comparisons. The children will be taught how to use punctuation, past and present tense, verbs, adverbs, adjectives and expanded noun phrases. The children will understand the importance of making and learning from marvellous mistakes and use their 'purple polishing pens' to edit and improve their writing.

Maths - In Maths lessons this term, we will be continuing to develop our place value knowledge within 2 digit numbers and applying this to money and comparing sets of numbers. We will rehearse number bonds and doubles and use number facts to add and subtract. We will be learning about weights, length and time and how we measure them. We will begin learning about multiplication by counting in 2s and begin to recognise multiples of 2, 5 and 10 times tables.

Science – This term we are learning about the materials that exist and are made in the world around them. We will be building on our knowledge of describing materials from last term and find out about what makes materials useful and fit for different purposes. The children will be developing their skills as scientists in observing, describing, questioning, testing, recording results and explaining.

P.E – Kites and Kestrels P.E. days will be **Monday and Friday**. Please can we ask that P.E. kits are in school all the time, as we may have an additional P.E. lesson if the weather is good. P.E. kits will be sent home for washing on a Friday to be brought back in on Monday. Children will need a P.E. top, shorts/joggers, jumper, trainers and spare underwear (socks and pants). As the weather becomes colder please add a jumper to your child's PE kit so that we can go outside. The second P.E. lesson of each week will focus on Games/multi-skills. The children will develop their skills and knowledge of using tactics and following rules within a game. The children will develop their agility, balance, stamina, strength and coordination.

In Spring One the first P.E. lesson of each week will focus on Gymnastics. The children will learn how to engage their core muscles to hold basic gymnastic shapes. They will then put these into short sequences, developing their balance, control and agility. The children will learn how to jump and land safely using the mantra 'start, sink, send, safe'. The children will also learn how to climb safely on apparatus. In Spring Two, the first PE lesson of each week will focus on Dance. The children will learn about music and dance moves from around the world and put these into short dances. The children will create and perform both solo and group performances. We will focus on changing speed, height and direction of dance moves, developing their agility, balance and coordination.

PSHE- Our key question in PSHE for the first Spring term will be 'How do we recognise our feelings?' We will name and describe a range of different feelings and how they affect our body and behaviour. We will learn ways to manage big feelings and recognise when we might need help

Art - In Autumn our Artist Study will focus around the works of collage artist Meg Cocoran. The children will learn how different collage materials can be combined to create a variety of different effects and will work towards creating their own collage of an iceberg linking with both our History topic about the Titanic. They will also be using their science learning about qualities of materials when they apply their knowledge of opaque, translucent and transparent.

R.E – Our R.E concept this term is Change and how change affects us in our everyday lives. We will explore the changes Jesus made to other people's lives through stories in the bible. In the second half term, our key concept is remembering and we will learn about how Jews remember the Passover story.

Music- Our Music this first half term will be focussed on teamwork, playing together in an ensemble and learning about musical styles in particular Rock music, following, keeping and creating rhythms. In the second half of Spring we will be learning about the musical style of Reggae and developing their understanding of tempo, dynamics and how a song/track is put together.

Computing- In Spring One is about creating digital music, creating a rhythm/musical pattern, experimenting with different musical elements, refining their patterns and learning how to save them to a file. In Spring Two we are learning about collating data and presenting that information on Pictograms, comparing totals, drawing conclusions and sharing that information.

Pencil Cases – If children wish to bring in their own pencil case, please may we ask for 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 and sent home to be replenished at Christmas.

Reading Scheme Books – Children will be sent home with a weekly reading scheme book matched to their reading attainment. Please note that if your child is working within Phonics then their reading scheme book will be set online. Please login to the Collins website and encourage your child to read their online book every day and record this in their reading diary. Please encourage your child to complete the activities in their reading diary, so that they can achieve their story wings badge and subsequent Bronze, Silver and Gold awards.

Being able to read fluently opens the door to a broad and exciting curriculum. Please prompt your child with questions about the book 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 **Friday**. We have effective methods for assessing reading. Children will move reading levels once they have securely met all the requirements within each level.

Library - The children will have the opportunity to visit our school library every week. Kites will visit on **Monday**. Kestrels will visit on **Thursday**. Please can children have their school library book in school on library day so that they can return it and check out another.

Shared Reading Books - The children may take home a shared reading book from our classroom book box. The children can change these books as frequently as they read them. Children are reminded and encouraged to change these books during morning registration.

Communication- Please can we ask that all communication is sent via the school office. If you have any quick messages or updates, then please feel free to speak to us at home time or write in your child's red communication book. If your child goes on the bus please fill out and return the weekly timetable grid so we can make sure your child goes home accordingly. In unforeseeable circumstances where a change is needed, we ask that you inform the office via email or phone as soon as possible.

Home Learning – Home learning will be set every **Friday** to be completed by the following Friday. Home learning is linked to our current learning and may include Reading, English, Grammar, Maths, Spelling or Phonics. Children can use their blue home learning diary to complete home learning tasks. Spelling tests will remain on **Friday**.

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. We ask that you do not send in any nuts or nut products, we do have children with severe nut allergies.

Many thanks for all your support. We are looking forward to the exciting term ahead. As always, if you have any questions or queries about either your child or their learning, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We look forward to sharing our learning with you throughout the term.

Best wishes,

Mrs Fowlds, Mrs Akindele, Mrs Monckton, Class Teachers & Mrs Croombs, LSA