



Preston Candover CE Primary School

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Wrens Class Summer Newsletter 2023



Dear Parents,

We hope you had a lovely Easter break and we welcome you back for the Summer Term. The children were really engaged and excited by our learning in the Spring term and we have two more exciting enquiry questions to explore over the summer.

Our Big Enquiry Question for the first half of the term is- “I wonder where we can go and how we can get there?”

To explore this question we will look at the topic of transport and how it has changed over time. We will use the Mr Gumpy stories to look at examples of older style cars and compare them to cars today as well as the story “The Train Ride” to look at steam trains which we will compare to the more modern ones today. We will also use “The Train Ride” in our PE sessions and create a dance to show the journey the train takes.

Literacy

Our focussed activities will continue to be based on different texts each week. During the first half of term we will be using the books “Whatever Next” “We’re going on a bear hunt” “What the Ladybird Heard” and “Handa’s Surprise” for much of our directed activities which will also link with other areas of the curriculum. We will act these stories out, make our own story maps of them and use them for exploring routes that the characters follow in them.

Maths

In maths this term we will be concentrating on counting, recognising numbers and ordering them to 20 and beyond and start to develop our understanding of the composition of numbers beyond 10. We will explore the concepts of addition and subtraction using number stories and start to record number sentences. We will also be doubling and halving numbers to 10 and explore the concept of odd and even numbers as well as consolidate our understanding of 1 more and 1 less than and patterns in our numerical system.

Understanding the World

Our RE focus for the first half term will be exploring the key concept of “Special” where we will focus on special clothing. We will talk about special clothing and when we might wear them- to a party for example and what makes these clothes special. We will then find out about special clothes within the Christian and Jewish faiths- looking at examples of special clothes within them such as christening robes and prayer shawls and caps used in some Jewish celebrations.

We will also explore the question “why is the word God important to Christians?” and find out about how Christians believe God created the world.

After half term our RE focus will be on transition and looking forward. We will look at some stories on looking forward within Christianity - the story of the parable of the Prodigal Son and use it to discuss how the father and the son moved on from the mistakes of the past. We will discuss why it is important for us to look forward and talk about the things we are looking forward to over the summer holidays and as we move into Year 1.

Past and Present

From a history point of view we will first explore how modes of transport have changed over time and use books about space to find out about Neil Armstrong and why he was important. After half term we will look back at our personal history and how we have changed over our first year at school. We will look back at the personal timeline we created in the autumn term of key events in our lives so far and add to it for things we have learned to do since starting school.

The Natural World

Our transport topic will provide us with lots of opportunities to investigate what happens to toy vehicles on different heights of ramps and on different surfaces. We will make observations and conclusions from what we have noticed. We will also conduct a traffic survey of the vehicles that pass our school in a set time and show the data we collect from it in a bar graph.

We will use the lovely stories "What the Ladybird Heard" and "Handa's Surprise" with stories from the "Anna Hibiscus" series to compare and contrast a location to our own- looking at what is similar and different between them. Linked to Handa's Surprise we will also use all of our senses to explore some of the fruits in the story.

Our Big Question for the second half of the term is- "I wonder what change looks like?"

This is a science based topic for us where we will use stories such as "Tadpole's Promise" and "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" to find out about the lifecycles of frogs and butterflies. We will also explore the theme of growing using "Jaspar's Beanstalk" and grow our own beans.

Expressive Arts and Design

Creatively our main focus over the first half of term will be exploring collage by making our own textured collages to represent the story "We're going on a bear hunt." After half term we will look at the work of the artist Kandinsky. We will then explore colour mixing and create own concentric circles mixing different colours as well as use natural materials outside to create concentric circles with. We will also look at the work of Hilma Af Klint and use shell shapes to create our own pieces of work in her style.

Physical development

We will continue to have 2 PE sessions a week for dance, gym and games/athletics. Please ensure that your child brings their PE kit into school on Monday morning. They will then bring it home at the end of the week for washing. They need a pair of trainers as part of their kit as we hope to be outside for most of our PE sessions this term.

Phonics and Reading

Each week we will continue to add the words and sentences we will be learning in class on Google Classroom- any reinforcement you can do with the words at home would be very beneficial. The children will continue to be assigned their Little Wandle Ebook at the end of the week and they will also bring home word sheets each week to accompany these books. Please can you read their book through with them over the weekend for reinforcement and record this in their green reading record each week. In addition, the children can continue to change their sharing book independently daily if they wish and will also choose a library book to take home each week.

Storywings

Well done to those children who completed their story wings and were awarded their badges during World Book Week. Badges will next be awarded towards the end of the term so please continue to explore the different genres of books with your child that are on the table in the front

of their reading records and work through the activities with them in their records too as we would love to award as many badges as we can by the end of the academic year.

Wrens Celebration of Learning

We would love to invite you into school on the morning of **Friday 30th June 9.00 to 9.20** to celebrate the learning of Wrens class. During this, children will be engaging you in some activities we do in class and sharing their learning with you. This is also an opportunity for the children to share their books with you and talk to you about some of the learning they have been engaged with over the year.

As always, if you have any questions or queries about either your child or their learning, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Michelle Cooke and Mrs Lee Anne Fowlds

