

Dear Parents and Guardians

7th January 2020

Happy New Year! We hope you have all had a good Christmas.

Our class topic this term will be **Animals**. Much of the work the children do will reflect this. In Literacy many of the books the children will use in class as a basis for writing will be ones with a theme around animals including pets. In Maths the children will be developing their understanding of division and multiplication, measurements, shapes and fractions. They will be encouraged to apply their maths knowledge through problem solving and explaining how they know an answer.

In Science this term the class will be learning about animals: how they change, life cycles, survival needs and how to keep healthy. They will also look at different aspects of the seasons. In History they will learn about the life and work of Florence Nightingale and in Geography they will explore village life and where our food comes from. In Design and Technology they will be developing their sewing skills and cooking healthy meals. In Art and Design the class will develop their drawing techniques and explore shape, pattern and line.

Ms. Collins will continue to teach music to the class on a Wednesday morning. The class will have PE support from Achieve 4 All on a Tuesday afternoon this half term. Forest school will start again after February half term.

In RE we will be continuing with the new curriculum. The Devon and Torbay Agreed Syllabus. We will spend a week finishing 'How should we care for others and the world and why does it matter?' We will then look at different aspects of the Islamic faith.

You may have books at home –fiction or non-fiction- with some of our topics as part of their content. Sharing these with children is a good way to develop their own reading and listening skills.

In Taw class we believe the morning show and tell time is important for developing the speaking and listening skills of children. Pre-school children are welcome to bring in any object that they would like share with the class. However we do ask the older children bring in objects that are topic related or linked to other parts of the curriculum including their own achievements outside of school.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have read with your children over the holiday. ***Reading with your children is one of the most important ways you can support their learning in Pre-school/Reception/Key Stage 1.*** As a parent/carer it is an expectation that you will hear your child read, or read with them, at least four times a week. It really makes a huge difference if reading regularly takes place at home. Please make a note of this in the reading diary. Your comments are relevant at whatever level your child is currently reading at.

Home Learning: Reception and Key Stage 1 will have a Home Learning book with activities linked to current or future work. We will aim to send work home on Fridays starting this week.

The children in year 2 also each have a spelling book with either the first 100 and next 200 high frequency and tricky words in. They also have a little blue book where we practise spelling rules, such as adding a prefix or suffix, or particular words like days of the week or months of the year. These will also be sent home sometimes.

At any point before and after school we are available if you have anything you would like to talk about regarding your child in Taw class.

We are looking forward to working with the children and you in Taw class.

Phil Parsons

Rosy Phillips

Denise Burridge