

Jamaica Class
Notes for Parents

Spring 2018



Welcome back! We hope that you have had relaxing Christmas Holidays and are ready to come back to school. These are some of the themes and units of work that we are tackling this coming term.

Overall themes

This term our Topic will be 'Carnival of the Animals' and we will be linking our Literacy, Science, Music and Art lessons to that theme alongside other curriculum areas.
Extra activities will include Forest Schools which will take place on Tuesdays and start on the **9th January 2018** and Polar Explorer Day, a whole-school Science Day which will take place on **Friday 9th March 2018.**

Class Assembly

Our class assembly will be on **Friday 12th January 2018.**

Literacy

We will be using a range of fiction and non-fiction texts to delve further into our theme, including poetry, non-chronological reports and explanation writing. In each unit we will develop our reading, writing and speaking and listening skills. Spellings will be an important part of our learning and each week spellings will be focussed around a particular phoneme or phonemes. The children will have their spellings sent home at the beginning of the half term. The spellings will then be tested on **Mondays**. The spellings will also include some key words to learn. Each child will have their reading log which should be written in three times in the week and I will collect them in on a **Monday**. In Guided Reading, the children will be reading texts that teach them inference, deduction, reading strategies, vocabulary exploration and the content of fiction and non fiction books, it will be based at their level and encourage progress within their reading.

Maths

We will continue to work on the key principles of number including the place value, four operations, fractions, data handling skills, shape and space, measures, and number problems. We will have a real focus on the application of these skills to solving new problems. We are aware that some of our methods of teaching Maths may not be the same as yours, but we will try to include working examples to demonstrate.

Science

Our science topic will be Animals including Humans. We will be looking at the life cycles of different animals across the world, and we will link our Geography to this topic too. We will be thinking about what all animals need to be able to survive. We shall also consider the best ways to keep ourselves healthy through diet, exercise and hygiene.

PE

This term, PE will be on a Tuesday and a Thursday. Please ensure your child has the correct, named PE kit for indoor and outdoor sessions. The PE kit should be in school every day and remain until half term. If your child has pierced ears, then the earrings must be removed for the day unless your child can remove their own earrings.

Art and Design

The children will be looking at art from around the world, including Australia. This will also link into our topic work. We will also use DT to design and make a healthy meal, again linked to our science topic.

Religious Education

The children will be studying stories from The Bible, focussing on the story of Noah. The second half term will be looking forward to Easter. The children will attend daily acts of worship either as a whole school or in the classroom.

Computing

The children will be working on the use of computers and the internet to locate, display and organise information. We will create graphs and link that learning to our Maths data topic. We will continue to talk about internet safety and the importance of keeping ourselves safe online.

Music

We will be listening to and recreating music from 'Carnival of the Animals' by Saints-Saens. We will be thinking about music is used to portray a wide range of thoughts and ideas, and then we will become musicians ourselves!

Homework

Your child's spellings for the first half term have been put into their home-school notebook. These will be tested on a **Monday**.

Homework will be set on a **Friday** and needs to be completed by the following Friday and handed in to be marked. It will support our theme and link closely with the curriculum we are delivering. The expectation is that this should be the same standard as in lessons and the children will be asked to redo their homework if it is not. Homework should take no longer than half an hour; further details will be in their home school notebooks.

We urge you to get in touch if you have any problems or concerns, no matter how small and insignificant you think they are. We look forward to working with you on the next step in their education.

Kind Regards,

Miss Blackburn

Maths

Week	Theme this week
1	• Number and Place Value and 3D Shape
2	• Subtraction
3	• Addition and Subtraction
4	• Measures
5	• Multiplication and Division
6	• Number and Fractions
7	• Fractions
8	• Addition and Subtraction
9	• Measures and Data
10	• Multiplication and Division
11	• Subtraction
12	• Addition and Subtraction including money
13	• Assessment Week

Literacy

Week	Theme this week
1	• Story Writing
2	• Poetry
3	• Poetry
4	• Explanations – linked to science looking after animals
5	• Explanations – linked to science looking after animals
6	• Explanations – linked to science looking after animals
7	• Explanations – linked to science looking after animals
8	• Non-chronological reports linked to Science
9	• Non-chronological reports linked to Science
10	• Non-chronological reports linked to Science
11	• Explanations – linked to science and DT
12	• Explanations – linked to science and DT
13	• Explanations – linked to science and DT

Science

Week	Theme this week
1	• Introduction Animals including Humans
2	• Basic needs
3	• Basic needs
4	• Life cycles
5	• Life cycles
6	• Life cycles
7	• Life cycles
8	• Exercise
9	• Exercise
10	• Food and Balanced Diets
11	• Food and Balanced Diets
12	• Hygiene
13	• Hygiene