

## Welcome Back!

We hope you've had a joyful Christmas and new year and are feeling ready for Term 3. Let's ease back into our routine, stay relaxed, and enjoy the journey as we head towards Spring! Exciting times are ahead—let's make them fun and memorable!

## English

In English this term, Centaur class will be studying the text *The Fossil Girl* by Catherine Brighton with the focus being on writing a recount of Mary Anning's fossil journal describing the events of her finding the first Ichthyosaur. Children are reading and discussing examples of recounts to identify key features such as chronological order, past tense and clear introductions and endings. They are planning their own writing by organising events in the correct sequence and rehearsing sentences orally before writing. Children are then drafting and editing their recounts, focusing on using time connectives, descriptive detail and accurate punctuation to clearly retell an event.

## PE

Centaur class will have two PE sessions a week: on Tuesday and Thursday.

Please continue to send your children in to school wearing their PE kits. Our units will be Gymnastics and functional fitness.

## P.S.H.E

This half term in PSHE, our focus is the 'Dreams and Goals' unit from the Jigsaw scheme. Children will explore dreams, goals, and challenges, learning to set ambitions, overcome obstacles, and reflect on their progress. They will develop resilience, teamwork, problem-solving, and self-confidence through creative activities, journaling, and collaborative tasks.

## Topic

This Term in Geography - Modern Europe. Children will learn about Europe as a continent and explore how places across Europe are the same and different. They will develop map skills by using atlases and globes to locate countries, capital cities and regions, focusing on the UK and key European countries. Children will learn about physical features (such as mountains, coasts and rivers) and human features (such as cities, roads and buildings), and understand how location, climate and land use influence how people live. They will also explore travel and connections across Europe, environmental care, and how climate and culture shape lifestyles, building their geographical vocabulary and ability to explain relationships between people, places and the environment.

## Modern Europe



## Science

In this unit, children are learning about rocks, fossils and soil. They explore different types of rocks, how they are formed, and why they have different properties and uses. They also learn how fossils are made and discover that soil is made from rock and organic matter and is important for supporting plant life.

## Maths

This term, Children in the UK develop their understanding of multiplication and division by learning to recall and use times tables (especially the 3, 4 and 8 times tables) and by representing calculations using arrays, equal groups, repeated addition and sharing. They learn key vocabulary such as multiply, divide, groups of, equal parts, factor, product and quotient, and use number lines and bar models to explain their thinking. In geometry, children learn about angles and the properties of shape by identifying right angles and recognising whether angles are greater or smaller than a right angle. They explore 2D and 3D shapes, learning and using vocabulary such as sides, vertices, edges, faces, parallel, perpendicular, polygon and quadrilateral, and describe shapes using their mathematical properties.

## RE

Our unit this term is: 'Who is a Muslim and how do they live?'

## Computing

This term our computing unit will be 'Branching databases.' E-safety is also covered every term.

## DT

This term in DT, our topic is called "Moving Pictures" whereby the purpose is "Making a moving picture for a family member or a friend which operates using levers and sliders." The children will research and investigate, design, make, and finally evaluate their work.

## Music

This term we will be looking at "Minibeasts".