

## Welcome to Griffin Class

Welcome back! We are so looking forward to the coming term and seeing all the children after such a long time away. We are very excited about going on the learning journey and very mindful of maintaining the positive emotional and mental wellbeing of the children in our class. Please do arrange a time to speak with us if you have any concerns or successes to share with us. We'd love to hear from you.

## History

We will be historical detectives, exploring the concept of Crime and Punishment. Firstly, slavery in North America, particularly finding out about the life of Harriet Tubman and the underground railway, will be our focus. From here, we will journey through the ages looking at how crimes and punishment have changed or stayed the same in Britain. We will start with the Ancient Romans and by half term have found out what the Terrible Tudors had decided would be classed as crimes and decided were effective punishments.

## Science

Year 4 - Living Things and their habitats  
We will use our knowledge of sorting and grouping plants and animals to explore and create our own classification keys. We will also look at how environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things.  
Year 5 - Space!  
This is an exciting topic in which we will learn all about the planets in our solar system. We will also be discovering why we have night and day and the reason why we have seasons and why they occur at different times around the world.

**Be ready, be respectful,  
be responsible**

## **Crime and Punishment**



## English

In English this year we term be using the Pathways to write scheme to increases the children writing skills and also their use of vocabulary. We will be looking at the text of "Queen of the Falls" by Chris Van Allsburg. We will be looking at drawing inferences from characters, making predictions based on the text, looking at language features, structures and presentations to add more meaning to our work. Below are a list of words we will be trying to incorporate and understand in our writing. If you could familiarise your child with these that would be great.

*answer(ed) appear(ed) believe build/t decide(d) different  
disappear(ing) extreme famous height imagine interest  
ordinary surprise(d) achieve curiosity desperate.*

## Maths

The focus for this term is on Place Value for Year 4 and Year 5. Both year groups will have the opportunity to ensure they understand the value of each digit - year 4 up to 10,000 and Year 5 to 1,000,000. They will have the opportunity to reason using their understanding and solve problems using a range of contexts. Right from the start of the year, learning of the times tables will be a key element of the learning, particularly for Year 4 and any practise at home will be most valuable.

## P.E.

Our PE lessons are on a **Monday** and **Wednesday** every week. This term we will be practising the skills of cricket and fitness. A great start to the year!

## Art/DT

The children will be learning how to draw landscapes and using the beautiful scenery around us to create their own pieces of work using a variety of tools and mediums.

## Computing

In computing we will start with e-safety before learning how to make a PowerPoint presentation linked to our Crime and Punishment topic. We will use slide transitions, animation, sound and video to create our PowerPoints before presenting them to the class for peer assessment.

## R.E.

In R.E we have the pleasure of Arabella Paul who will be teaching the New Testament in a very hands on and interactive way. She will use role playing and dress up to recreate important religious events for the children to easily relate to throughout the term.

## P.S.H.E.

Our topic this term is 'Being me in my World'. Here we will explore how we can further develop working as a class, improving on such as our team work and collaborative skills. The idea of democracy will also be focussed on and the children will have the opportunity to create their own class charter. Of course, a key element of this will also be to support the children in their transition back to school after the Summer holidays as they reconnect with friends and staff, encourage them to be positive in their learning and manage any anxieties or worries they may have.

## Music

We are very excited to be exploring Rock Anthems this term, particularly the song 'Livin' on a Prayer' by Bon Jovi. We will find out how we recognise rock music and how many of these features