



Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Happy New Year! I hope that you all enjoyed a relaxing Christmas break and the children are feeling refreshed and revitalized for the forthcoming term.

Language, Oracy and Literacy

This term we are focusing on stories set in imaginary worlds, which begins with reading and comparing a range of texts with fantasy settings. Drama will be used throughout to explore characters and settings of stories. Later on in the term we will be looking at explanation texts where the children will be reading and analysing a number of texts to familiarize themselves with the genre before moving on to write their own explanations of a range of themes.

Mathematics

We will begin the term learning about measurement. This will include telling the time to the nearest 5 minutes in both analogue and digital time, as well as solving time word problems. We will also focus on lengths, mass and volume/capacity. During the second half of the term the children will be recognizing fractions of number and solving problems which will involve adding and subtracting fractions with the same denominator.

Science and Technology

The term's science topic is 'Forces and Magnets'. This unit gives children experience of push and pull forces, including attraction and repulsion between magnets. They will learn that these forces have direction and can vary in size. They also learn which materials are attracted to magnets. They will plan a fair test, deciding what to measure and what equipment to use.

Place and Time

We will be studying Aborigines and Maoris. The children will be learning about the history of both sets of people and discussing the effect of colonization. They will also gain an understanding of the importance of artwork in both cultures and learn how both races express their culture. The children will use maps to locate Australia and New Zealand and will develop an understanding of how both countries were formed by the movement of tectonic plates and how these movements can result in earthquakes.

Physical and Emotional Health (PE)

In PE this term the children will be working on co-ordination and balance in gymnasium sessions. They will also be continuing to develop their dance and performance skills.

Arts and Creativity

The children will be looking at the significance of the Aboriginal and Maori artwork and will go on to re-create their own pieces of artwork in these styles

Citizenship and Ethics

This term the children will be focusing on understanding disabilities. In particular, we will be thinking about the barriers that can be experienced and the solutions that can support people with disabilities.

Faith and Belief

Out topic for this term is Jesus' miracles and Christianity. The children will be enquiring whether Jesus could really heal people and whether these were miracles or if there is some other explanation.

Homework

The children will receive Maths homework on a Tuesday, which is due in to be marked the following Tuesday. They will also receive a Reading Comprehension and new spellings on a Friday. The Reading Comprehension homework will be due in the following Friday, when the children will also be tested on their spellings.

You may find some of these websites useful to help the children at home:-

<http://www.mathszone.co.uk/>

<https://www.mymaths.co.uk/>

<http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/interactive/literacy/index.htm>

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primaryhistory/victorian_britain/

Yours faithfully

Mrs Garland and Miss Mill