



Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Welcome back to Lowbrook Academy after what I hope has been a restful break. Children are refreshed and ready to start an exciting year in classes 2W and 2C. This term our main topic will be The River Thames. Below is an overview of what will be covered in this first term.

Language, Oracy and Literacy

The children will continue the development of reading and writing skills, phonic and blends knowledge, spelling and grammar. They will be studying the structure of traditional stories and how to write letters and postcards. We will be looking closely at *The Wind in the Willows* by Kenneth Grahame, which is linked to our topic of the River Thames.

Mathematics

Children will be working on place value in 2 and 3 digit numbers; recognising, comparing and ordering numbers from 0 up to 100; using addition, subtraction, multiplication and division facts; addition and subtraction of money; naming fractions $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{2}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ of a shape; measurement of length; telling and writing the time quarter past/to the hour; describing the properties of 2-D shapes and 3D; interpreting and constructing pictograms, tally charts, block diagrams and tables.

Science and Technology

Our science topic this term is Materials. Through investigation the children will identify and discuss the uses and properties of different everyday materials, as well as recognising the key elements of an experiment and how this further informs our scientific understanding.

Place and Time

Our topic is The River Thames which will involve learning about rivers and how they are formed, the location of the River Thames, where it begins and ends, and the importance of rivers for habitats and trade. We also have an exciting trip planned to the Henley River and Rowing Museum later on this term.

Arts and Creativity

We will be studying sketching, drawing, painting and mixing skills. We will be using these skills to recreate images of the River Thames and of *The Wind in the Willows*. Mrs Lucas will be taking the children for Dance/Music themed lessons whereby the children can use their creative skills in an active way.

Physical and Emotional Health

The children will experience a range of outdoor practical games relating to invasion games. We will also be performing dance activities focusing on fundamental skills such as agility, balance and co-ordination around a themed dance.

Faith and Belief

This term's religion is Judaism. We will be exploring the teachings of Hanukkah and its importance.

Citizenship and Ethics

Our first topic for the term is 'Rights' which will involve understanding our rights within the school at looking at our school rules. The children are also given the opportunity through circle time activities to discuss issues that arise in everyday life and share worries or concerns they have.

Homework

The children will receive mathematics or literacy homework every Wednesday, which is due in the on the Friday. This will be based on work covered that week in class and will include times tables. Reading comprehension shall be sent out every Friday (in for the Monday of the following week). Spellings, linked to the weekly phonic sounds, will be sent home on Mondays in preparation for a test the following Monday. The children should continue to read at home every day and have their reading records signed.

If you have any queries or questions, please make an appointment to see us as class teachers through the school office.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Sophie Casey and Miss Jessica Wetherell

Useful websites

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/riverthames/>

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

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/Interactive.aspx?cat=63>