Welcome Back, Kingfishers! Terms 1 and 2

A close up of a logo

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After all these months of lockdown, we are so glad (and so proud) to see you back in school! It’s wonderful to see so many familiar faces and a very warm welcome to our new classmates too.

A huge well done to you all for your hard work, perseverance and dedication during lockdown. We have seen some truly remarkable and inspiring work on Class Dojo and can’t wait to see it ‘for real’ in the classroom again. A big thank you to parents, carers, family and friends for supporting home learning during this time.

Already, we have seen your enjoyment when reuniting with friends, how quickly you have adapted to our new routines and the readiness you have shown to learn in class. One step at a time, but you have all made a terrific start and we’re looking forward to this year with you.

**Here’s what we’re doing in Terms 1 and 2:**

**PSHE – Bounce Back**

The whole school will be following a PSHE scheme called ‘Bounce Back’ for the first term. Each day, we will discuss possible feelings and emotions related to lockdown and returning to school. We will focus on positivity and gratitude for the wonder things in our lives (big and small) and explore coping strategies for feeling worried or anxious.

**English**

Again, as a whole school, we are exploring the text *Here We Are* by Oliver Jeffers. As Year 6s, we will compare it with classic poetry and song, discuss our responses to the text and write short pieces ourselves (whilst revising spelling, punctuation and grammar learnt previously).

Over the next few weeks, you will be given target spellings to learn and we will study weekly spelling patterns/ rules. I will also send out some ‘SPAG’ homework once a fortnight.

We will move on to other texts throughout the term. I will send more details of these and the work we will be completing shortly. We will be applying our writing skills in our Science, RE and Geography work too.

**Mathematics**

We will start with place value then move on to calculation and fractions. We will make sure we recap previous learning and also move on to Year 6 objectives. We will do lots of practical work with resources and problem solving and reasoning to really learn concepts (both new and previous) in depth. We will do a daily ‘Short Maths Fluency’ session to develop our mental Maths.

Like English, in a couple of weeks, I will send home a fortnightly Maths homework sheet to consolidate work we have explored in class.

**Science**

We will be learning about ‘Animals Including Humans’. We will study our circulatory system and the role of the heart, lungs and blood; our digestive system and how we get the nutrients we need; healthy lifestyles and the effects of drugs on the human body.

**Geography, Music and Art and Design**

Our main topic this term is ‘Brazil and the Amazon Rainforest’. In this exciting topic, we will study the geographical similarities and differences (both human and physical) of the UK and Brazil and study the rainforest biome in depth. We will learn about its climate, its biodiversity, the tribespeople who live there and environmental issues including deforestation.

We will also explore Brazil’s sport, food, music, art and carnival culture.

**PE**

Term 1:

Tuesday pm – PE with our specialist, Akeel. Invasion games

Friday pm – Tennis at Bishop Sutton Tennis Club

Term 2:

Tuesday pm – PE with our specialist, Akeel.

Another weekly session tbc. We will let you know as soon as possible.

**\*Please make sure you come in full PE kit to school on those days. PE will be outside so make sure you have warm PE clothes (e.g. jogging bottoms and a sweatshirt) and a waterproof coat. Shoulder length hair must be tied back (as always).\***

It’s going to be a super term with many challenges and I know we will adapt, support each other and enjoy our learning. **I will send more details about school reading books for home and homework shortly.** In the meantime, parents and carers – if you have any questions or queries, please don’t hesitate to contact us.

**One last thing –**

**Water bottles, warm coats (break time will be outside as much as possible!) and wellies!**

Best wishes,

Mrs Cathy Lambert

(Kingfishers’ class teacher)