



Lower Key Stage 2  
Foxyards Primary School  
Curriculum Newsletter  
Autumn 2018

At Foxyards we:  
Respect everybody and our environment.  
Aim high in everything we do.

Class 4:  
Mrs McGrath  
Phase Leader

Class 3/4:  
Miss Chilton

Class 3:  
Mrs Pryde

Support Staff:  
Miss Ball (HTLA),  
Mrs Malpass-Rust, Mrs Robinson, Mr Hughes.

Welcome Back! I hope you all have had a fantastic summer break and are ready for another busy year! Any concerns you have, please speak to a member of staff on the door in the morning who will pass any message on to members of staff. The team will endeavour to follow up any issues as quickly as possible. To kick off the new school year we will be performing a Phase assembly on **Thursday 4th October at 2:30pm**. Children in Year 3 will make up the lead choir, while children in Year 4 will each have a speaking part to learn. Children in Year 3 will then have this opportunity when they move to Year 4 next academic year. Hope to see as many of you as possible on the **4th October!** Another letter inviting you to the assembly will follow shortly.

#### Science

Our topic for the first half term will be 'Living things and their habitats', where the children will recognise that living things can be grouped in a variety of ways. They will learn to identify, name and group a variety of living things in their local and wider environment.

In the second half of the term, the children will be learning about 'Electricity'. They will construct simple circuits, while identifying and naming the basic parts, including cells, wires, bulbs, switches and buzzers and learn how to keep safe around electrical items.

#### ICT

During this term, children will learn that technology can be used to organise, reorganise, develop and explore ideas, and that working with information in this way can aid understanding. We will also give children opportunities to discuss their experiences of using ICT and how it is used in the wider world. Children will be able to apply what they have learnt in this unit when identifying key points in a story or account, writing accounts in which details of character and action are used to interest the reader and using evidence and examples to support key points.

#### P.E

This term in year 3 and 4 the children will be benefitting from the expertise of our sports coach - Mr Atkins. During the autumn term the children will have dance, gymnastics, games and outdoor adventure activities. On Fridays, some year 4 children will continue with their swimming lessons at Dudley Leisure Centre.

#### Music

Music will be taught using Charranga. Children will learn to play a recorder which will be kept in school. Focus for this term is to play and perform in solo ensemble contexts using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression.

#### MFL

Children will continue to learn to read and speak French, building on their previous learning through the programme Rigolo.

## RE & PSHE

During this year children will have the opportunity to investigate and discuss British Values. Focusing on what it means to be British and looking closely at the five key British Values. They will also be given the opportunity to watch 'News Bites' weekly, which will expose the children to the current news in the world.

During RE sessions this term, the focus will surround Christianity where the children will learn about religious figures and their teachings. They will also explore religious buildings and artefacts linked to Christianity.

## Topic

The majority of this term's topic is based around the acquiring and application of Historical skills. Throughout this topic, pupils will learn about life in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age. We will be focussing on the following areas:

- Understanding when the Stone Age took place and where this relates chronologically compared to other British periods of time.
- Investigating sources and evidence that have survived.
- Exploring a case study of Skara Brae.
- Exploring changes in lifestyles from the Stone Age to the Iron Age.

## English

This term we will be exploring a range of genres, including: adventure and traditional tales, persuasive writing, and different forms of poetry, making links with our topic where appropriate. These genres will be supported by various texts linked to our topic for the term, 'Stone Age to Iron Age', such as 'Stone Age Boy', 'Cave baby', 'Stig of the Dump' and 'UG',

To broaden the children's understanding of modern Britain this term, we also have a 'Black History' and 'Anti-Bullying' weeks planned, whereby the children's English lessons will explore these topics in depth.

Children will also read at least once a week during guided reading sessions to an adult. Please help your child by hearing them read at home in order to achieve the 'Reading at Home' certificates. The last date to achieve 30 signatures for the Bronze award is **11<sup>th</sup> December**.

Children will also be set weekly spelling, please help your child to learn these spellings at home ready for the test.

## Maths

In Maths, the emphasis this term will be on number, in particular place value. Children will also be improving their mental maths skills.

The Maths Challenges have started again this term with all children working towards Maths Challenge one.

Children will have three targets to work towards to achieve the first award.

Please encourage your child to learn all their times tables off by heart to help pass the first target!

## Homework

Homework will be set on a **Wednesday** and will be expected back on **Monday morning**. The homework task will be explained in class, and will generally be an activity to consolidate learning. Please encourage your child to check that they understand what they need to do on a Wednesday, and if they are unsure, bring it back into school on Thursday or Friday to ask a teacher.

There is now a homework club which will take place weekly on Monday lunchtime, this will be run by Mrs Thomas. Please be aware that homework is a statutory requirement and helps pupils to reinforce what they have learnt in class. Incomplete homework will be completed during homework club on Monday lunchtime.