

Birkwood Primary School

YEAR 4/5 PANTHERS NEWSLETTER January 2018



Spring 1 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a wonderful start to the new academic year. We really enjoyed our WW2 topic and our trip to Eden Camp. We also enjoyed the lead up to the Christmas period and all the festivities. Mr Campbell and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for our cards, gifts and well wishes, it was very kind and much appreciated.

We have another exciting term ahead and below is an overview of the areas:

Literacy/History

We will be closely linking our work in literacy with our **Titanic** topic. We will begin our literacy work through researching key facts surrounding the sinking of the Titanic. Using our research as a stimulus, we are going to create a newspaper report. We will use modelled writing of newspapers to allow us to identify the key features required in our own.

Once this is completed, we are going to create instructions of how to stay safe on the Titanic. This will allow us to look at the issues faced in 1912 and what we could put in place on ships to ensure that this disaster never happened again. This will link heavily to ICT as it will be a research project.

There will also be a specific focus on the development of more spellings related to topic, punctuation and grammar.

Spellings will be given and tested on Fridays.

There will also be homework provided in Reading on a weekly basis.

Mathematics

We are going to begin the term with a reinforcement of previous learning relating to Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication and Division and then move on to the recognition of Roman Numerals. After, we will work on identifying fractions and their decimal equivalents. Then, we will look to order them and finish by adding and subtracting with fractions. In shapes, space and measure we are going to look at the area of regular and irregular shapes.

We will allow the children to apply their learning to real life scenarios and become 'masters' of mathematics.

ICT

The children will use the internet effectively for research and select information appropriate to a given task. This will link very closely to literacy and topic work, providing us with the chance to use the computer suite and the Ipad's to research on specific themes.

In addition, we are looking at digital tessellation and Islamic-style art for our computing topic. This will use programs such as inkscape and scratch to plan and design digital art, used in everyday life.

Art/Design Technology

The children will work with watercolours and pastels frequently during the term. They will be using these to recreate the famous scene of the Titanic's final hour. They will also have the chance to use ICT to recreate different aspects of the boat using 3D shapes and digital paint.

PE

Class	Dance Lesson (Mrs. Porter)	PE Lesson (Mr. Campbell)
Mr. Markham	Thursday	Tuesday

Our focus for this half term is **gymnastics** with Mr. Campbell - please make sure your child has the correct kit – thank you. In addition to this, the children will work on their ballroom dancing skills in order to show case it in our Class Assembly.

Key Dates:

Monday 5th February 2018 ~ Parents' Evening

Wednesday, 21st February 2018 at 2.45pm ~ Class Assembly

As you can see, it is a very busy time ahead. We feel sure that we can rely on your continued support, however, if you have any worries or concerns please do not hesitate to call in and arrange a mutually convenient time for us to meet.

With best wishes,

Mr Thomas Markham (Class Teacher)

Mr Daniel Campbell (Cover supervisor)