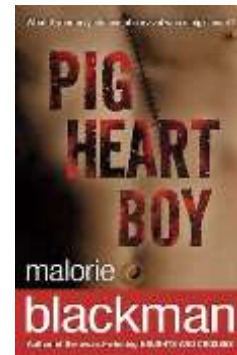




Dear Parents, Carers, and Children,

Welcome, or welcome back to Blackman class! I hope you've all had a lovely, well-deserved summer break. I can't quite believe it is already September, it's flown by! We have an exciting first term ahead of us...

Our first class-text this year is going to be Pig heart Boy by Malorie Blackman (our class name). I am looking forward to sharing this exciting story with the children. The text will be used as our guided reading sessions, where the children will enhance their reading skills (vocabulary, inference, prediction, explaining, retrieving, summarising +fluency). The text will also be used as our reading for pleasure sessions, where the children will listen to the story for enjoyment.

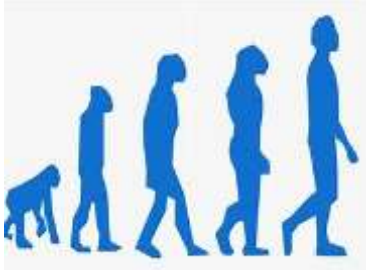


Our first writing genre is going to be biography writing, where the children will be writing to inform. Within this unit, the children will be writing about Julius Ceasar (linked to our Connections work). On our journey, the children will begin by identifying grammatical and structural features, learning how to use relative clauses and parenthesis, before planning effectively, drafting, editing, and publishing their piece of work. After this, the children will have the opportunity to write a biography based on someone who inspires them, applying the prior taught skills. The interesting storyline within our class-text this term, is going to be our stimulus for our next writing genre this term: balanced argument. The children will be arguing whether the main character should go through the process of a transplant. Within this unit, the children will be taking part in conscious alley, using their speaking, and listening skills to debate, before writing a balanced argument.


The children will be working on their handwriting and spelling skills in detail this year. The children will have three handwriting sessions a week and two spelling sessions. They will learn different techniques to learning spelling rules, for them to apply this to different words within their writing.

Our first Maths topic this year is going to be Place Value. Here, the children will be starting off working practically, where they will be representing numbers up to a million/ten million. Also, the children will be identifying and recognising roman numerals up to 1, 000. The children will be partitioning digits in different ways and comparing and ordering numbers. Within this unit, the children will develop their rounding skills, where they will be rounding any number. Finally, the children will be working with negative numbers, they will be identifying negative numbers on number lines, and using these to work out different calculations with negative numbers. Throughout this topic, the children will be counting up and down in 10's, 100's, 1,000's and 10,000's. Moving on from place value, the children will be adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing. Within the four operations unit, they will be practically calculating to begin with, applying their place value knowledge. Then, the children will be using formal written methods, before using the most efficient method for a given calculation. After learning these skills, the children will apply their taught skills to different word problems and reasoning style questions.

Our first Science unit is 'Evolution and Inheritance'. Here, the children will be researching all about Charles Darwin and Alfred Russel Wallace to begin with, so they gain an understanding of what vocabulary means and how this theory began. The children will be learning that fossils can be used to find out about the past, where they will comparing different fossils. Following on from this, the children will learn how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment and how different animals have evolved over time. Finally, the children are going to be learning that living things produce off-spring of the same kind, but they are not normally identical. Here, the children will be considering and identifying genetic features within their own families.



The first RE topic this year is going to be 'Understanding Christianity- People of God: How can following God bringing freedom and justice?' The children will be learning that the Old Testament pieces together the story of the People of God. They will also learn, through reading a religious text, that within the story of Moses and the Exodus shows how God rescued his people from slavery in Egypt. The Children will understand that Christians apply this idea to living today by trying to serve God and to bring freedom to others; for example, loving others, caring for them, bringing health, food, justice, and telling the story of Jesus.



Our Connections big question for the year is 'Do invasions change a country forever?'. Our first topic is 'The Romans', with a question 'What was the impact of the Roman invasion on Britain?'. Within History, the children will learn that Julius Caesar had several failed attempts at invading Britain before the new emperor Claudius was eventually successful and they will understand that the Romans took control of the south-eastern part of what is now England, and the Emperor Hadrian ordered Hadrian's wall to be built to keep out the Picts. The children will learn about Boudica's rebellion against the Romans, and finally they will learn about the technological advancements and the impact the Romans had on the country.

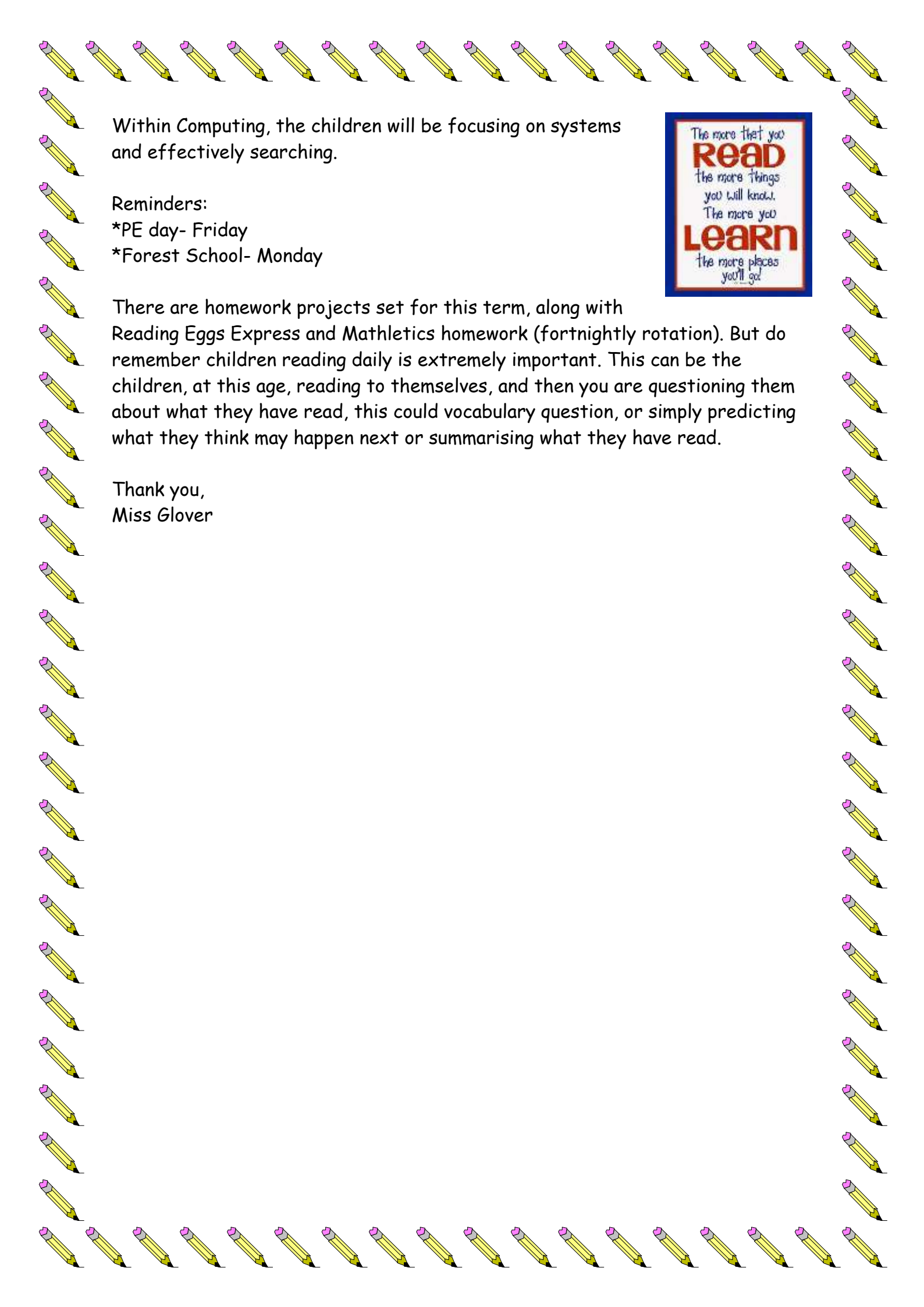
Within Geography, the children will name and locate some Roman invaded cities. They will also understand that the Romans invaded Britain because of the lucrative silver, gold, and tin mines in the country. Finally, the children will understand the eight points of a compass and learn how to use four and six figure grid references.

Within Art, the children will be using clay to create a roman bust. They will learn different techniques- squeezing, joining, carving, pulling, and pinching and using appropriate tools for the chosen methods.

Within PE, the first unit of work is Fitness. The children will learn to develop an awareness of what your body is able to do, they will develop their speed and stamina, develop strength using body weight, develop co-ordination, develop agility, and develop balancing with control.

Within French, the children's first unit is La date (the date). Here, the children will repeat and recognise the months of the year in French, ask when somebody has a birthday and say when they have their birthday, say the date in French, create a French calendar and recognise key dates in the French calendar. The children will practise their reading, speaking, listening and writing skills within French lessons.

The first Jigsaw (PSHE) unit is Being Me in My World. The children will identify their goals for the year ahead, understand their rights and responsibilities as a British citizen, understand their rights and responsibilities within school, making choices about their own behaviour and understand how rewards and consequences work/feel, and finally create class charter.



Within Computing, the children will be focusing on systems and effectively searching.

Reminders:

\*PE day- Friday

\*Forest School- Monday



There are homework projects set for this term, along with Reading Eggs Express and Mathletics homework (fortnightly rotation). But do remember children reading daily is extremely important. This can be the children, at this age, reading to themselves, and then you are questioning them about what they have read, this could vocabulary question, or simply predicting what they think may happen next or summarising what they have read.

Thank you,  
Miss Glover