

Dear Children, Parents and Carers,

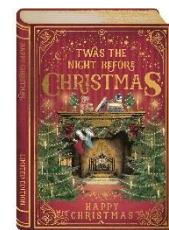
After a busy first term, I hope that you all had a great first half term break of the year. We have another interesting term ahead of us, with lots to be learned and enjoyed!

Our first class read for this term is Cogheart by Peter Bunzl. This is an curious narrative set in alternative Victorian England, which explores the journey of Lily, a young girl determined to find her missing father. Whilst reading the text we will explore themes of courage, resilience, friendship and loyalty. We will enjoy this text during our daily reading for pleasure sessions, as well as during our Guided Reading sessions, where we will focus on further developing our reading skills of vocabulary, inference, prediction, explanation, retrieval and summarising.



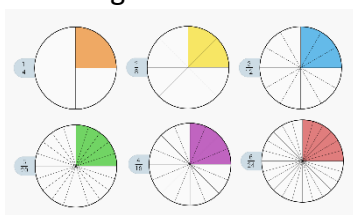
Our first writing genre will be instruction writing, where the children will write a set of comprehensive instructions on how to operate an invention of their own design, influenced by Cogheart. To help us to understand the structural and grammar features of the text type, we will use existing instruction manuals to explore the use of colons and

brackets, subordinating connectives and clarifying fronted adverbials. In our second writing unit of the term, the children will persuade their reader that their invention will benefit to world we live in, focusing on using a well constructed argument, emotive language and varying sentence type and length. Both of these pieces of writing will be published in a book entitled, 'Inventions that could change the world', that will be displayed in the school library. Finally, the children will write their own entertaining versions of 'Twas the Night Before Christmas'.



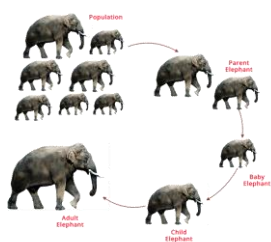
The children will also continue working hard to develop their handwriting and spelling skills through focused sessions throughout the week.

In maths, we will continue our learning on using formal methods for short and long multiplication, before moving onto division, working progressively through the Build it, Draw it, Write it representation model. Then, we will explore multiples, common multiples and factor pairs. Moving into fractions, we will learn how to order fractions and add and subtract fractions with the same denominators, or with the same multiples. Within geometry, we will describe and represent the position of shapes following reflection and translation. Finally, we will explore measurement, converting



between kilometres and miles. Again, throughout their learning in maths this term, the children will be exposed to a variety of different word problems and reasoning style questions, prompting them to draw from their knowledge and use their skills to answer them with increasing efficiency and accuracy.

Our regular recapping of core arithmetic knowledge will enable them to feel more confident with this..



Our next Science topic of the year is Living Things and their Habitats, during which we will learn how different living things reproduce. We will research our key scientist for the term, the biologist and natural historian, David Attenborough, and will find out about his significance in his field, introducing millions of people to a variety of animals from around the world. We will learn about the differences between life cycles of mammals, insects, birds and amphibians, as well as some

plants. Whilst working scientifically, we will identify and classify animals based on similarities and differences between their lifecycles, how a bean changes over time as it germinates, and look for patterns between the number of petals and stamen in plants.

In RE this term we will be exploring the question: What did Jesus do to save human beings? The children will learn about salvation, the Gospels' account of Jesus' death and resurrection. We will consider different Christian interpretations of his death, and ways in which they remember his sacrifice. We will also link this to Christian views on life after death, and how Christians show their thanks for Jesus' sacrifice through their own actions.

During our Connections topic, we will be learning about Marie Curie and the impact that her work in the fields of radioactivity and radiography have on the world today. During our Geography lessons, the children will explore the geographical locations of Poland and France, two countries that were significant parts of Marie Curie's life. We will then focus on making comparisons between the UK and France, the topography of both countries and how this has changed over time. In history, we will learn about Marie Curie's journey as she investigated radioactivity and invented the mobile x-ray machine. We will learn about when she was alive and the significance of her work in relation to other people and events, to help us to explore the long-standing impact of her work.



In PE this term, we will be learning symmetrical and asymmetrical balances both with and without apparatus with Gymnastics. We will also explore straight, forwards, straddle and backwards rolls., before practising travelling actions both in canon and synchronisation.



Our PSHE topic this term is 'Celebrating Difference', where we will learn about accepting difference, including others, solving problems and the giving a receiving of compliments.

In Computing, we will learn about web page creation. In this unit, the children will become web designers, exploring existing websites, and designing and creating their own. They will learn about website navigation, copyright and using links appropriately.

## Homework

The children have a Homework Menu that includes tasks that will support them with their learning that can be completed throughout the term. They will continue to have additional

homework set on Reading Eggs and Mathletics on a rotational basis each week. These will be set on a Friday, and should be completed by the following Thursday.

As we know, the time that children spend reading has a huge impact on their education. It would be amazing if children can explore books on a daily basis, when they get home from school, before they go to bed or at another time that suits you family best. This does not have to be the same narrative text everyday; shorter stories and non-fiction texts provide excellent practise and a source of knowledge too. At this age, your children will be reading to themselves more often, but do check in and ask them questions about what they have read or found out as much as you can.

Regular practise of times tables will also have a huge impact on the progress that we make in maths this year – very quick but very often being the most effective approach at keeping tricky facts within their working memory. The children will be becoming more and more confident with their times tables by now, so focusing on the corresponding division facts will provide them with that extra challenge. The app, 'White Rose 1-Minute Maths' is really simple to use and provides quick practise of a wide range of maths skills.

#### PE and Outdoor Education

PE lessons will be on a **Friday** this term, where the children will need to come to school in their PE kits.

Outdoor Education will be on a **Monday**, where the children need to come to school dressed appropriately, with waterproof clothing and wellies, just in case!

Thank you for all of your support so far this year,

Mr Liddle