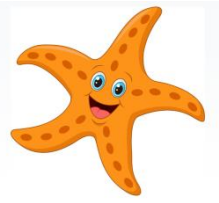




Welcome to Starfish Class



Autumn 2 2022

It is hard to believe we are already in Autumn 2. The children are well settled. They are enjoying the class teddies. Their diaries are a popular choice for reading time. Thank you for returning them promptly. It is a big help.

Our learning in November and December:

Our new topic this term is a history unit focused on the question: 'Was the Anglo-Saxon period really a dark age?' It will cover the following areas:

- What was Britain like at the end of the Roman period?
- Who were the Anglo-Saxons and why did they choose to settle in England?
- Where did they settle and why didn't they choose to live in the towns the Romans left behind?
- What can we learn about Anglo-Saxon life from the items they left behind? (Sutton Hoo and Staffordshire Hoard)
- How did the conversion to Christianity change the lives of people in Britain?



Class Book

We will continue reading 'The Pack of Pompeii'. Once we have finished, we will be looking at a selection of non-fiction books linked to our topic. We will also review the features of non-fiction texts.



English:

We will start by writing instructions to make Anglo-Saxon soup after perfecting our style on sandwich making. Following this, we will complete a narrative unit 'Kassim and the Greedy dragon' with a focus on dialogue.



Spellings will continue in the same format; the children will be given spellings to practise in class. On Friday, they will have a weekly test on the spelling to see how well they have retained their knowledge after a week of learning in class. An overview of the spellings patterns this half term will be added to the class page for any parents who wish to explore the spelling pattern further with children at home.

Maths:

Our focus for this half term will be:

- Addition and subtraction, including mental and written methods
- Multiplication and division, including mental and written methods



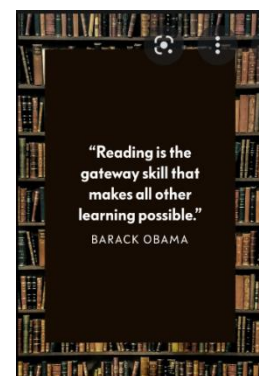
Other curriculum areas include:

- Computing: Desktop publishing
- DT: Textiles - Seasonal Snowman
- French: numbers to 20, games and animals, Christmas in France
- History: Anglo Saxons and Scots
- Music: Brass
- PE: Gymnastics (Wednesdays), Fitness (Thursday),
- PSHE: Be Yourself and Regulated Learning
- Religious Education: Why is the bible so important for Christians today?
- Science: Light

Supporting learning at home:

Spellings: These will be taught in school and lists will **not** be sent home to learn. A spelling overview with some example words will be available on the class page shortly.

Reading: Every child needs to read every day, including weekends. In Year 3, children should aim to read for at least 10-15 minutes each day and talk to an adult about what they have read. Each read to an adult needs to be written in the diary and signed and dated. If and when children are ready, they can complete their own reading diary – as long as they still have adult signatures for each read. It is signed reads which count towards the class reading challenge and treat. Reading diaries must be in school **every day**. We appreciate all your support in updating records, encouraging children to read and listening to them read regularly. It really does make a huge difference as reading is the foundation for all other subjects.



Homework:

Maths will start Monday 7th November. It will be issued every **Monday** and due for return on the **Friday** of the same week, ready for re-issuing on the following Monday. It will start with some simple mental arithmetic. However, we are looking for speedy recall – knowing by heart rather than counting.

English homework comprehension will start on Friday 4th November. This will be issued each **Friday** and will be due for return on **Wednesday** of the following week, ready for re-issue on the Friday.

For all homework, answers will be provided so adults can check homework, if they wish, with the children. This is not obligatory but we have found many families find this useful. Homework will also be checked at school. Children are free to RAG their work. They are familiar with this from class:

RAG:

Red – really struggled, need more help;

Amber – nearly there;

Green – fully understood.

We don't want homework to be a source of stress or anxiety, only an extension of the children's learning at school. If your child is struggling with homework, please return it to school with your child. An adult will go through it with them.

Useful information:

Coats: Please make sure your child brings a coat every day. All items of clothing, bags etc should be named. If it isn't, we can't return them!

PE: Children need to bring in a full PE kit to change in school. As the weather starts to get colder, we recommend joggers and a jumper/hoodie in addition to shorts and T-shirts. Please also make sure that your child has a named water bottle. We will continue to have PE lessons on a **Wednesday** and **Thursday** this half term.

If you have any questions to ask, or have information to tell us, please get in touch via the school office (julie.carter@littleaton.derbyshire.sch.uk or 01332 831471). Should you have any queries, we are available on the playground at the end of the school day.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Dilleigh, Mrs Williams, Miss Warren & Mrs Mould

Year 3 staff