

## Kirkstead Class Newsletter – Spring 2

Welcome back to Term 4! We are excited to step into a brand-new half term together. With lighter mornings and the promise of warmer days ahead, it already feels like a wonderful time for fresh starts, new learning, and joyful discoveries. The children have returned full of energy, and we can't wait to see them continue to grow, shine, and surprise us with all they can do.

### **Our Topic: *Get Ready, Get Set, Go!***



This term, we're diving into an exciting new topic all about exploring the world around us. The children will be learning about: Our school and local area, special places and journeys and simple maps and how to use them.

Through hands-on activities and shared adventures, the children will build their understanding of the places that matter to them and the journeys we take every day.

### **Understanding the World**



STEM Week is just around the corner. Our theme this year is *Curiosity*, and we'll be spending the whole week exploring, experimenting, and asking big questions. The children will take part in a range of fun investigations designed to spark wonder and nurture their natural love of discovery.

### **Religious Education**



In RE, we are learning about how people celebrate festivals in different ways. We began by exploring the Lunar New Year and the traditions that make it special. As we move through the term, the children will also reflect on what Easter means to them and why it is an important celebration for Christians.

### **Personal, Social & Emotional Development**



This term, the children are focusing on teamwork, problem-solving, and making thoughtful choices. We have revisited our class and school rules and talked about how we can make good choices by remembering to *stop, think, and then choose*. These skills will continue to grow as the children work together on shared challenges and collaborative tasks.

### **Expressive Arts & Design**



With Miss Wilkin, the children will be creating beautiful landscape artwork, exploring colour, texture, and composition. In music, they will be experimenting with tempo—listening carefully, moving creatively, and learning how music can change and tell a story.

## Reading and Phonics

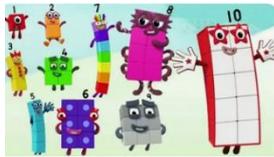


The children are eager to jump back into their daily phonics sessions. It has been wonderful to see their confidence grow as they bring home their worded books and proudly share their reading with you. This term, they will continue to bring home a new decodable book every Friday.

Please remember to record all reading in your child's Home School Record. Daily reading earns dojo points, which will go towards the dojo shop in March.

Alongside their phonics book, children will continue to bring home a *sharing book* on Mondays and Wednesdays—perfect for enjoying together. They are also welcome to choose a favourite story from home if they prefer.

## Mathematics



Our young mathematicians will be busy strengthening their understanding of numbers 1–10 through practical, playful learning. This includes: Ordering numbers, doubling, comparing quantities and writing the numbers.

We will be using *Numberblocks* to support their learning, along with plenty of hands-on exploration. The children will also be learning about 3D shapes and creating repeating patterns.

## Forest School



Forest School continues every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon, and the children are thrilled to be heading back outdoors. This term's adventures include: making flaming horses, team challenges and obstacle courses, trust-building activities using blindfolds, exploring dinosaurs and creating clay footprints, identifying animals from their tracks, searching for signs of spring and naming and identifying wildflowers.

Forest School clothing will be returned at the end of the spring term for cleaning and will need to come back at the start of the summer term.

## P.E.



PE takes place every Tuesday with JB Coaching. Please send your child to school in their named PE kit. Unless they are attending Multi-sports Club, children are expected to change back into their school uniform afterwards—please ensure their uniform and shoes are in school and clearly named.

## Homework

Homework will continue to be sent home each Friday in the homework folder and is welcomed back in on the following Thursday.

### **Drop Off & Pick Up**

- Morning drop-off is through the KS1 gate at **8:35am**. Please bring your child straight to the white classroom door where a familiar adult will be ready to welcome them.
- At home time, the KS1 gate opens at **3:10pm**, and children can be collected from the classroom door at **3:15pm**.
- If someone different will be collecting your child, please let us know.

### **Looking Ahead**

We are so excited for a fantastic Spring 2. The children have already made such wonderful progress, and we can't wait to see them continue to thrive, explore, and grow. Thank you for your ongoing support—together, we'll make this a term to remember.

Kind Regards, Mrs Nicholson, Mrs Allitt, Miss Haines & Mrs Darici