



Dear Parents,

We have lots of exciting things planned for this term and look forward to sharing them with all the children.

A few reminders for this term:

- It is important that home reading folders come to school every Monday and Friday in order for us to change the reading books and ensure they are quarantined over the weekend. Please make sure that you record that you have heard them read in their reading record book. Daily reading really makes a huge difference to each child's confidence and growth.
- Water breaks are incredibly important for the children. Children should have a clearly named water bottle every day.
- The early bird morning tasks are a wonderful way for children to consolidate learning, discuss issues that they may have had in a previous lesson and begin their day with a positive routine. They run between 9am and 9.15am. We would like to encourage as many of the children as possible to take part in these activities and look forward to seeing you all at 9am each morning.

English

Our topic this term will focus on the wonderful work of Beatrix Potter. Children will be studying her, the nature of her characters and her use of language that evoke memories of the past. Children will then have an opportunity to plan their own tale in a historic setting.

During the latter half of the term we will complete a mini topic on summer and the seaside, which will include many fun activities, games and hopefully the opportunity for a "beach day" in the sunshine.

The children will continue to revise and extend their knowledge of spellings and sounds. We would like to encourage you to practice the reading and writing of the **tricky words**. These can be found at the back of your homework books.

Grammar will focus on suffixes, prefixes and past tense.

Maths

In maths, we are working to extend our knowledge in the areas of:

- Estimating, counting, comparing and ordering quantities
- Addition and subtraction by recall of facts and mental calculations
- Multiplication and division through reaped arrays
- Fraction of quantities, shape and objects.
- 2D and 3D shapes

An important aspect of mathematics is to apply this knowledge to problem solving and investigations. This means that a component of mathematics taught must be to reason, question, reflect and discuss strategies in order to answer questions.

Topic

Topic encompasses geography, history, art and design technology. This term our topic is "Plant a Little Seed". We will investigate the life and works of the wonderful Beatrix Potter. Children will look at both her written work and her passion for landscape painting. We will spend time comparing and contrasting the landscape of the Lake District and to that of The Chilterns. Children will have the opportunity to use water colours to create a view of the Chilterns.

Our mini topic on summer and the seaside will allow us to look at historical beaches, seaside creatures and the importance of looking after our oceans. We will create our very own Punch and Judy puppets and theatres and perform these for one another.

Science

This term we are linking our science lessons to our topic 'Plant a Little Seed'. We will consider the life cycle of a plant and all the things a plant needs to grow. We will then use our knowledge to create our very own 'Mr. McGregor's' garden. We will consider the positive environmental outcome of growing our own fruit and vegetables and hope to set up our very own, plastic free, Little Missenden Farmers market in the second half term. We would ask any keen gardeners, or anyone with seed or plants that they would like to donate, to come and chat to the Mrs. Downie or Mrs. Stockdale.

R.E.

In this half term we shall be investigating the big question: Can stories change people?

Children will investigate their favourite stories and discuss how it impacts the reader. They will then look to stories of the Bible and consider the message that they are trying to teach. Children will explore the strengths of the characters and why people look to the Bible for answers.

Computing

This term's computing links to our exciting topic 'Plant a Little Seed'. The children will be introduced the coding app Scratch Junior. They will begin to understand the term algorithm and the features of the app. They will then begin to create their own programme in order to create a growing plant animation.

Art

In Art, we will study the landscape work of Beatrix Potter, using watercolours to create our own landscapes of The Chilterns.

We will also be creating some exciting seaside collage artwork.

PSHE

This term Year 1 are looking at Money Matters and It's My Body.

Year 2 are discussing One World and Growing Up.

Please note that these topics are in line with the governments required objectives and will include scientific names for all body parts. We will also be identifying the similarities and differences between males and females. Finally, we will be introducing the children to the NSPCC Talk Pants campaign. [Talk PANTS & Join Pantosaurus - The Underwear Rule | NSPCC](#)

We encourage you to look at the PSHE and relationships policy on the [school website](#) for further details on what these topics may cover. Do feel free to discuss this with us at any time.

PE/Games

PE is on Wednesdays. Our focus for both year groups this term is multi- skills. We will be focusing on throwing and catching, using equipment and general rules and fair play withing outdoor games.

Owl Class will have to opportunity to take part in a virtual athletics competition against other schools within the Holmer Green Sports Partnership. Results will be recorded and sent off to determine who the winning classes are. This will help prepare us for our sports day later in the term as well.

Other Information:

Mrs. Stockdale teaches on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Mrs. Downie teaches on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

Chef is cooking with the class on Tuesday afternoons.

Forest school and yoga continue on Friday afternoons.

Miss Steele will be joining us as a student teacher in the second half term for a few weeks.

We continue to follow a rotation on a Wednesday afternoon, which includes three groups completing PE, music and PSHE.

Homework

The children will continue to **receive 3 reading books on a Monday**, these are to be read and **returned to school on Friday**.

In addition to reading, we would like to restart weekly **spelling homework**. Spellings will be uploaded to the google classroom on **Monday**. Children are asked to practice their spellings ready for their spelling test on **Friday** mornings. As part of this practice, we ask that children use each word in a sentence. Sentences can be written on a whiteboard or a piece of paper and we ask parents to take a **picture and submit it to the google classroom by Friday**.

Finally, we will set weekly **maths challenges** to be completed online. The children will have to log on to their Maths Seeds account (same log in details as reading eggs) and complete their challenge by Friday morning.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us to arrange a convenient time to meet.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The first signature, on the left, is 'Stockdale' written in a cursive style with a small flourish underneath. The second signature, on the right, is 'Emma Downie' written in a similar cursive style.

Mrs Stockdale and Mrs Downie
Owl Class