

Dragon's Den News



St Margaret's-at-Cliffe Primary School

Terms 5 & 6 2018

Mrs. Wong and Miss Allan



'Dragon's Den spring into action' and explore Castles and Settlement and The Bronze Age!

Welcome back everyone and what a fantastic start to the summer term! The children are so eager to get 'stuck in' to their work and have engaged in excellent learning already this week. I continue to be very pleased with the children as they make excellent progress.

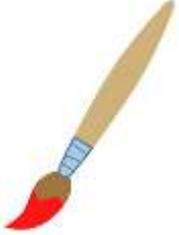
English: For our fictional unit we will be using *The Hodgeheg* by Dick King-Smith to look for examples of adverbs and adverbials (prepositional phrases). Children will memorise a section of dialogue and use it as a basis for their own writing. In the second week the focus is on complex and compound sentences as children write an animal adventure story. We will be looking at persuasive writing for children to explore and discuss adverts. Children will identify the key features of persuasive writing and use these with a twist, to persuade people NOT to buy! Using compound and complex sentences the children will then write a persuasive letter. We will be reading stories related to our topic on Castles and Settlements and also using these stories we will be concentrating on writing stories using descriptive language to set the scene. The children will also have the opportunity to read and write their own poetry exploring the vocabulary of sounds and study the use of adjectives and adverbs/adverbials as descriptions. Children will write poetry inspired by 'Sounds in the Evening' and 'I am the Song' and develop their ability to write and perform poetry. We will be immersing ourselves in understanding similes, metaphors, and personification and extending our understanding of how we can use this wonderful form of language in our descriptive writing. We will be focusing on plays and dialogues and also non-chronological reports and shape poems. The children will also be creating story boards with stories set in a castle and then creating moving stories using their computing skills. As always we will continue to read and analyse more challenging texts in groups throughout the week.

Maths: We will be using place value and number to begin the term moving on to addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, measures and data, shape and fractions. Use of tables facts will be ongoing so if children could learn by heart (if they haven't already!) their 2,3,4,5,6,8 and 10 X tables please.





Science: This term is all about Forces and Magnets. Children will be experimenting with a range of magnetic and non-magnetic materials and will be sorting, testing and exploring. We will be working very hard on our investigation skills by conducting various experiments and deciding on how to present our findings.



In History & Geography we will be looking at the invaders and settlers of our local area. As history detectives the children will be taking an in depth look into the way of life of early settlers and the fortresses that have been built locally. The most interesting of these being Dover Castle of course! We have booked a visit to Dover Castle for 23rd May.



In Art we will be looking at improving mastery of techniques such as sketching and drawing. We will also be noticing and recreating patterns that occur in buildings and asking ourselves 'can buildings really speak?'

Homework is still a very important part of our class routine and I ask the children to spend 10 minutes every night to ensure any of the spelling patterns/tables they are learning are embedded in their memory. The reading, of course, is always important with the emphasis on the understanding of new vocabulary; I encourage the children to always ask an adult or look in a dictionary if they don't understand a word. Could I also ask that Reading Records are signed and dated when you have read with your child; listening to your child read (and you reading to them) continues to be a very important element in developing confident, accurate readers. I would like to thank you for being so supportive with the homework so far, I know the children have thoroughly enjoyed the tasks that have been set.

P.E During term 5 lessons will continue to take place on Thursdays and Fridays with the focus being on Tag Rugby. In term 6 our P.E lessons will be swimming on Tuesdays and athletics and kwik cricket on Fridays. Thank you in advance to those of you who will offer to help us take the children safely up to the pool. Can I just ask that if possible, costumes and towels be marked with a surname. Can I also ask you to regularly ask your child if their P.E shoes still fit them as I often hear cries of 'my shoes don't fit me' as we begin each session and we will continue to have P.E outside as much as possible. Could the children also have a tracksuit bottom and top just in case there is a chilly day or two and a drink bottle without a screw cap (water only in it please).

Lastly, I would like to thank everyone for ensuring that bags come to school every day. Please could you ensure that the reading and contact books are in the bag in order for us to change the books regularly. May I also remind you of the importance of your child using an actual book bag as we have had drinks bottles leak on books and school work when rucksacks and other bags have been used.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Wong

