



# Welcome to Class 9's Summer Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to begin by expressing how very proud we are of the Class 9 pupils for how much they have progressed and achieved so far this year. All children have coped very well with the year 5 curriculum and it is so wonderful to see smiling faces come into the classroom every morning.

We said goodbye to Mrs Barrett as she left us to start her maternity leave and she has welcomed a beautiful baby girl! Our Class 9 team now consists of Miss O'Connor, Mrs Wardell-Appleton and Mr Riley. The children have again impressed us and taken any chances in their stride.

Remember we continue to use Google Classroom for updates and messages and to add any work for those children who need to work from home for isolating reasons. If you have any problems, please come and speak to one of the team at the end of the school day.

## Maths

This term we will be starting to learn about decimals and percentages. After this, the next topic will be specifically focusing on decimals to secure the children's knowledge of adding, subtracting multiplying and dividing decimals. We will end the summer term completing topics such as shape, position and direction, converting units and volume. Some topics will be reinforcing Children's prior knowledge of certain areas already learnt in previous years and there will also be some areas that will be new to the children.

Times tables remains a big priority this term so please encourage frequent practise at home too by using Times Tables Rockstars – all children have their login details in their diary and there is a new battle to compete in every week!



## English

Our English topic this term is linked to our history topic, Ancient Rome. We will be focusing on key aspects from this historical period and using our knowledge from history lessons to help our writing. We will be writing different pieces such as a character description of Roman god or goddess and also instructions of how to be a Roman soldier. We continue to do 4 English lessons a week, starting with a reading lesson focusing on a text and then following with a grammar lesson before beginning two lessons of planning and writing.

Next half term our topics will focus on rivers where our writing will explore climate change and protecting life under water. Our poems will delve deep under the water with figurative language.



## RE

The first RE topic for this term is Pentecost. This is a lovely topic, focusing on transformation and how we can transform ourselves and concentrate on being better people in the way God will have wanted us too. We will concentrate on our thoughts and feelings of the word 'transformation' and refer to scripture to help us relate to Jesus. We will be then be studying stewardship as we reflect on the importance of looking after God's creation. Laudato Si Teaches us to protect our common home so our topic will identify how. We will also learn more about Sikhism as we pay our respects to their religion.



## Science

Our first topic this term will investigate forces. We will conduct a range of scientific experiments that will focus on forces such as air resistance, water resistance and gravity. We will then explore our results in a range of different ways in order to discuss our findings.

Then, we will explore the fascinating topic of Earth and space. Why do planets orbit the Sun? Why is there day and night? Why do planets rotate? What is the moon? We will discuss these key questions and more.



## PE

In PE this term, the sport of focus is cricket. We have already started to learn fundamental skills such as how to bowl properly with the correct arm position and stepping and will next be moving on to batting before moving on to fielding skills and then eventually put these skills to practice in a match situation. After cricket, we will also be doing athletics, basketball and netball throughout the summer term.



## Computing

This term will be using new technology named 'Crumble' to program using coding and algorithms. We will program a car to move using a range of different STEM skills.



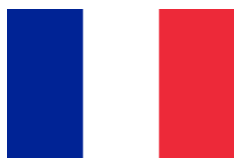
## Homework

All children are now expected to read their school reading book at home twice per week and to complete an activity on Reading Plus three times per week. Reading Plus delves more deeply into developing comprehensions skills and understanding rather than just fluency.

The routine for spellings and times tables remains the same. The children get new spellings and tables every fortnight on a Friday and that must be completed and returned by the following Wednesday, ready for testing on the Thursday. Just a reminder that for spelling homework the children now have to write the word, the matching rule and write a sentence where the word is used in context correctly.

## French

This term in French we will be starting with the topic 'Quelle est la Date Aujourd'hui?' which is 'What is the date today?' We will be starting to use 'Language Angels, a new system which provides fun, interactive lessons for the children which provide games/songs and other resources to help with their language learning.



## Art, Music and D&T

Our DT topic will link to our computing as we will be using Crumble to program a moving car. Crumble works by creating coding scripts and algorithms that will control a range of different technology. We will design our car using CAD and reflect by evaluating our final product.

Next half term, we will explore the famous local artist Mackenzie Thorpe. The inspirational Teesside artist creates fascinating artwork as we will explore the techniques used to try and recreate our own.

In music, we will use Charanga to explore a range of different musical genres.

## PSHE

This term, throughout the school, we have recently assigned two PSHE leaders from each class. With help from the PSHE leaders, there will still be two activities a week in order to enhance learning across the key areas of PSHE to enhance personal, social and emotional development.

## History

As mentioned previously, our history topic this term is Ancient Rome. We will be focusing on key events from this fascinating time. Already the children have shown strong interest and curiosity in lessons. We have started already to learn about daily life in Ancient Rome and what there was to do, for example we have explored the Roman baths, markets and colosseums. We have also investigated Pompeii and will continue to extend our learning on the subject as we learn about Julius Caesar, the Roman army and empire.

## Geography

Next half term, we will study rivers. Thornaby-on-Tees was built upon a river and our rich history has relied on the River Tees. We will explore river use further whilst also investigate the different features of a river. Where do rivers come from? What are the different parts of a river? Why do water falls happen? Why do rivers bend? These questions and more will be investigated. We will also discuss extreme climates linked to rivers such as flooding.

