



Bitham Brook Primary School



Head
Every child a
good learner

Hands
Every child
knows how to be
part of a team

Heart
Every child
knows they are
valued

Autumn Newsletter Terms 1 and 2 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back after the summer holidays. We hope you all had a lovely break. We warmly welcome any parental support you are able to give in class, even if it is for an hour a week. Please do not hesitate to come in and chat about any concerns or things you think are going really well.

Our new topic for Terms 1 and 2 is "**The Jungle**" and we have lots of exciting learning planned.

English:

The children will be finding out about Indian jungle animals and will be writing facts and riddles. We will use adjectives and similes to write about animals, we will then write descriptive senses poems about the rainforest, using various stories as inspiration. We will link our Literacy learning to Geography and will be writing about our lives compared to the lives of a child living in India. This will lead into some persuasive writing. We will write instructions for making chocolate and write a chocolate poem. We will write a recount of our trip to Longleat and write stories using description and a range of different sentence types.

Maths:

The children will be developing their recall of bonds to 10 and 20 and will solve problems involving addition and subtraction. We will be counting forwards and backwards within 100 and beyond and reading and writing 2 digit numbers. We will be finding fractions of shapes and quantities and plotting co-ordinates on maps. We will improve our counting fluency when counting in 2s, 5s, 3s and 10s and will solve practical problems involving multiplication and division.

Science:

This term our Science will be based on animals and their habitats. We will go on a mini beast hunt and look at the wildlife living in our school grounds. We will find out about different animals and sort them according to their characteristics. We will find out what animals from different habitats eat and look at animal food chains.

In Term 2 we will find out the difference between things that are living and things that are not. We will find out about differences and similarities between mammals and sort mammals according to different criteria.

Geography:

In Geography we will develop our map skills and use coordinates to locate places on maps. The children will complete weather charts for the UK and India and compare the two places. We will list the human and physical features of Westbury and compare them to India. The children will find out about Indian schools and compare their lives to the lives of children living in India.

RE:

In RE we will be talking about being kind and how being kind affects those around us. We will listen to religious stories, talk about their meanings and link experiences to our own lives.

IT:

In IT the children will develop their familiarity with the keyboard and navigate around the screen. They will edit their work and present their learning to the class. We will teach the children about how to stay safe on line and use a computer programme to make a poster about e-safety. We will also be learning about computer coding.

Design Technology:

The children will research and develop a new chocolate bar. This will involve designing packaging, following and making the chocolate and evaluating our product.

PE:

For the first half of the term, the children will be taking part in athletic skills including running, jumping, throwing and catching. We will then explore dance through the music of 'The Carnival of the Animals'.

Art:

In Art we will be developing our drawing and painting skills. We will explore colour mixing and paint jungle animals in different shades of colour. We will look specifically at the work of Henri Rousseau and paint and draw in the style of the artist.

PE is on a Tuesday and Friday so please make sure your child has a named PE kit in school. Thank you.

Please continue to listen to your child read regularly, even as their fluency increases, and ask lots of questions about the text. On a Monday, we will award a gold star if your child has read five times or more in a week. You need to make sure you have recorded a comment in their PACT book with a date so we can put a comment in their books to show they have gained a gold star. Spellings will be sent home on a **Monday** to learn (they will be based on the phonics we are covering in class). We will then practise using the spellings in sentences on **Friday** to ensure children are able to apply them in their writing. Please make sure your child brings their purple spelling book into school. Children will receive their homework on **Wednesday** and please can it be brought into school on **Monday**.

Many thanks for all your support. We are very excited about working on such an exciting topic with your child this term.

Mrs Roff, Mrs Woodward, Mrs Wells and Mrs Smith