

## Class China

## **Information for Parents**

Spring Term 2018

## Core Curriculum

## Maths

In our 'Maths Adventures' lessons children will be using their knowledge of mathematic concepts and strategies to solve problems in context. Children will study topics including Toys, Shopping and Miracles. Strategy groups will focus on working on their own targets to consolidate and learn new skills and strategies.

In outdoor maths we will be looking at multiplication, division, reading scales, nets of 3D shapes, weighing direction, rounding numbers and time.

## **English**

<u>Fiction:</u> Pupils will be developing their writing skills by exploring stories with historical settings linked to WWII based on The Lion and Unicorn by Shirley Hughes, Carrie's War by Nina Bawden and War Boy by Michael Foreman. Children will also complete work based on older literature linked to Charlotte's Web by E.B White.

<u>Poetry:</u> Children will look at a variety of poetic styles including shape poems and create their own poems using word play, rhyme and metaphors.

## This term's topic focus is World War 2.

In this unit pupils will learn about the impact of WWII on children. Within this they will have opportunities to consider what it was like to be an evacuee, what it was like to live through the Blitz and what people ate during the war. To engage pupils with this topic they will have the opportunity to cook, create rag-rugs, decipher Morse code and learn about music of the time.

#### ICT

Pupils will develop their coding and programming skills using 'Phiro', a programmable, moving Robot.

#### Science

Year 4: Will be focusing on sound; how it travels from a source to our ears and the correlations between pitch and the object producing the sound as well as the pattern between the volume of sound produced and the strength of vibrations to produce it.

Year 5: Will be focusing on forces: air resistance, water resistance and the effect of friction. They will also look at light; how we see things and why shadows have the same shape as the object that cast them.

#### Art and Design

We will be looking at the work of Henry Moore and developing pupils' skills of sketching and shading. They will be designing and making their own models of suitcases which will involve looking carefully at existing products. In addition, children will have the opportunity to learn how to cook using a range of cooking techniques.

### R.E What kind of world did Jesus want?

Children will interpret the meaning of Bible stories about Jesus and those he told about himself. They will learn that current Christian' beliefs and values are based on the key teachings of Jesus and what he hoped for our world in the future. This will be investigated through discussion, reflection, written work, role play, music and art.

### Music

Singing - children will continue to learn and improve songs for occasions such as Stars Assembly.

Ocarinas - to play as part of a class and to practise a variety of songs, realising a sense of achievement when playing music together. As confidence builds, pieces of music with a harmony or descant part will be introduced. Children will become familiar with musical notation will be an integral part of each lesson.

#### French

We will be focusing on colours and class-room objects and then names of different foods and how to order them.

#### P.E

Pupils will be focusing on key fundamental skills for balance, coordination and agility as well as developing throwing and catching skills. Through gymnastics, children will explore different apparatus and create their own routines, performing movements with increasing accuracy and control. They will have the opportunity to play modified competitive games in netball and tag rugby. They will evaluate their performances and work on improving their personal bests.

## Other information

- PE kit needed on Friday and Tuesday for those not swimming. (In the event of poor weather, it is a good idea to have a pair of socks and gloves as part of their kit).
- Swimming Tuesday morning (Years 4 only until Easter then Year 3)
- Library books Friday
- Homework will be given out on Fridays and aimed to be returned by Wednesday. Please remember to sign your child's homework menu.

# How can I help at home?

Encourage your child to read to you regularly and talk to you about the books they are reading, particularly the language and grammar used. They can record interesting vocabulary and descriptions in their inspiration book. This not only improves your child's reading skills but also helps to raise the standard of their writing.

Some ideas of questions are shown below:-

Can you find an interesting adverbs or powerful adjectives/verbs?

What makes the character or setting description interesting?

What do you think will happen next in the story? Why?

How do you think the character is feeling?

Encourage them to show you examples of how different punctuation is used e.g. can they explain to you how speech is punctuated and find examples in their book?

Practising tables knowledge and converting one unit of measure into another (1750g is 1.75kg or 1 3/4kg) regularly helps pupils to maintain their ability to recall these facts accurately at speed. It would be particularly beneficial to work out the differences between given times for example the beginning and end of a television programme to work out how long it was.

In addition, pupils can go through the school web-site to our log in page for IXL where they can practise their Maths and English skills whilst earning virtual stickers. Objectives with a yellow star next to them indicate the objectives we have already covered or are about to cover.