

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR CLASSROOMS...

Summer term (B) 2013

We are looking forward to a lovely half term, during which your child will be enjoying all sorts of exciting learning experiences. We hope this newsletter will give you an idea of some of these, but please look at some other sources of information. Especially our website:

www.longwill.bham.sch.uk

Please encourage your children to use your computers at home for learning. They can use the following educational websites:

- Home.espresso.co.uk
- www.mathletics.co.uk (ask teachers for your child's password).

Check your child's **PSP** regularly as teachers and children record lots of video clips and photos throughout the school day and this is a great way to keep in touch.

Foundation

In Foundation we welcome two new friends, Karsel and Kyle in the nursery.

This half-term our theme is **'The Jungle'**. We will be engaging in role-play activities to extend our knowledge of animals. We will be learning about their names, colours, patterns, habitats, the things they eat and the things they do.

We will be comparing the ways in which we and animals move and preparing for our sports day events by practising our catching, running and balancing skills.

We will be focusing on good manners, being a good friend and increasing our personal hygiene i.e. confidence with toileting, keeping our hands; as well as our teeth clean.

This half-term our class trip will be to **Twycross Zoo** to see the animals we have been learning about. We would like to support the conservation of endangered animals and would like your support in adopting a chimp. More details to follow.

Things to do at home.

- Talk to your child about the names of different animals. Discuss the sounds they make and the things they do.
- Share books with your child daily e.g. animal books/ nursery rhymes
- Write in and let us know any interesting comments your child has made or things they've done.



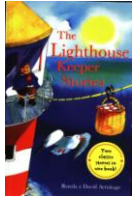
Year 1

Our work this half term will start with the story of the "Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch". This will allow us to discuss the story and the purpose of lighthouses around the coast. This will link to the story of brave people living near the sea, including Grace Darling. We will make a large lighthouse out of junk and experiment with bulbs, wires and batteries to make a light.

This work will link to an old favourite theme - **pirates**. We will be writing a pirate's log as well as letters to the pirates to find out where they are and what they are doing. The idea of a treasure map around school will link to our previous work about maps and orienteering as well as further discussions about land use. The story of "Peter Pan" may help us in our work with reference to the Walt Disney theme.

Our interest in art will be continued with copying old paintings representing ships and lighthouses as well as producing our own work.

This half term sees us looking forward to the future and moving to a new classroom with a new teacher. We will have a taste of life in Year Two during school **Transition week** from June 10th. This should be a very interesting time.



YEAR 2

This half term our topic will be holidays. During our first week of term we will be thinking about **camping holidays**. We will have a **day in the forest**, and then watch a short film called 'Marshmallows'. We will use this to inspire our work.

This first week will be followed by **transition week** which will have a theme of **sustainability**. When we return to year 2 we will begin a project about ice lollies... We will taste and test them, design our own flavours and packaging, make them, and then sell them! We will use our time in the ICT suite to create posters and adverts which we will send home. Our Literacy work will include plans, recounts, and instructions.

In history we will continue to work with Mrs Braisby on **Kings and Queens**. We also hope to have some time to complete some **orienteering** activities for Geography, while in PE our focus will be athletics. Our Numeracy work this half term will range from work on capacity, to time, to addition and subtraction (we will need to count all the money we make from ice-lolly sales!!)...



Year 3

This half term Year 3's Topic is "**Passport to the World**".

In Literacy we will be writing letters and learning all about **dictionaries**. In Geography we will be learning about the **Caribbean** and looking at similarities and differences between places such as Jamaica and the United Kingdom. We will learn about the differences in the climate and the differences in the landscape.

In Art we are going to look at textures and textiles. In Design Technology we are going to **design and make a puppet** and try out our sewing skills. During P.E we will be sharpening our **athletic skills** in preparation for sports day! In R.E we will explore what commitment and contemplation means. We will focus on experiments in Science lessons, the children will be doing lots of experiments and learning all about fair testing.

In French we will learn how to **name animals in French** and describe our pets. With the Eisteddfod, Sports Day and the end of year show this will be a fun packed half term!



Year 4

In this final part of the Summer term we will be continuing with our Room on the Broom story in literacy and finishing off the story book that we have been writing and hopefully become Longwill 'published' authors!

In maths we are looking at multiplication and division and solving problems relating to these. We are also going to be continuing with telling the time.

In science we are finding out how we can classify organisms and we will also be learning about the properties of different materials.

In our topic lessons we are going to be learning about different places around the world from Australia to China and from South America to Alaska.



Year 5

This half term starts with our very exciting trip to **PGL** where the children will be learning lots of new physical and team working skills. The children will also be using their experiences from this trip to write their individual diaries where they will be practicing writing in the past tense.

This half term will see Year 5's **Africa project** continue. We will be putting the finishing touches to our African theatre masks and starting to choreograph our African dance to use in our Leaver's Show performance.

In Literacy, '**The Lion King**' continues to be our focus to help us write our own stories based in different cultures and this will include dilemmas, solutions as well as a touch of magic! The children will be working on how to write conversations between different characters, using speech marks and learning different words for 'said'. Their cross-curricular writing will continue to involve writing letters, information posters and explanations.

In **Science**, we will look more deeply at habitats in our own locality and why animals choose to live in certain environments. The children will be looking at how habitats provide animals with basic life needs such as food, water and shelter. They will also be beginning to look at different categories of animals in food chains, such as predators and consumers.

In **Maths** we will be starting to learn new concepts through real life practical problem solving situations. Themes we will look at are: addition and subtraction of two digit numbers, beginning to learn our times tables, using positional language and learning the importance of measuring mass accurately. The children will continue with their Snappy Maths daily and will be encouraged to use Mathletics to practice their mental maths at home.

In PE the children will be continuing with swimming. They will also have coaching in athletics this half term ready for sports day!

To help your child with their home learning, please look at:

www.mathletics.co.uk

<http://www.our-africa.org/>

http://news.bbc.co.uk/cbbcnews/hi/static/find_out/specials/newsround_extra/africa/html/



Year 6

This term Y6 will be having a fantastic set of learning experiences! They will enjoy a three day residential at PGL with their friends in Year 5 and will stay at Boreatton Park. They will have lots of fun whilst they are there!

Transition Week begins on Monday 10th June. The whole school are moving classes to join with their new teacher in September. It will be a week long experience where pupils and teachers can get to know each other. Year 6 will play an important role by spending a week's 'work experience' as a teaching assistant in one of the classes. Their own transition activities are being planned carefully so that they are well prepared for their move to secondary school and you will hear more about that very soon.

Another project is called 'Life and Deaf' - this is inspired by some work done by deaf teenagers in Greenwich, London. The Y6 boys will create their own poetry around the topic of being deaf and will develop their film and ICT skills as they record their presentations. This work will be further developed after their trip to B.I.D to see the touring exhibition of the London deaf teenagers' work.

You can learn more about it at this website: <http://www.lifeanddeaf.co.uk/>

