

# Newsletter

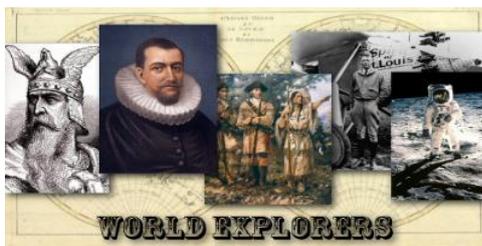
Key Stage One

Spring Term

We would like to welcome you back to school after what we hope was a wonderful Christmas and take the time to wish you a very Happy New Year! It has been great to see how excited the children have been when sharing details about their Christmas.



This term our topic is 'World Explorers' which we are sure will prove to be very interesting and inspiring for all our children. Throughout this topic the children will be given the opportunity to explore different countries through role play. They will be discovering the history of exploration, focusing on specific explorers such as Captain Cook, Christopher Columbus and Francis Drake, finding out which continents they helped to discover and what they found there. We will also be looking at the challenges of exploration. This theme also gives us the opportunity to discover more about our World, the Continents and the seas and Oceans.



In **English** this term the children will be writing comparisons and making up their own stories following a theme. Later in the term we will be using information texts to discover more about each individual explorer and the features of the different continents which they visited. We will also be developing our use of varied sentence types, noun phrases, adjectives and conjunctions in order to develop our independent writing skills.



## Author of the term

This term we are looking at the author Joanna Troughton and her books retelling folk tales from around the World.



In **Maths** we will be continuing to focus on number work including partitioning, place value and calculations as well as developing learning of times table facts, fractions, shape and measure. We will also be providing the children with a range of activities to apply their maths and develop strategies to solve word problems, encouraging them to justify their answers.



**Geography** – This term we are learning about the features and names of different continents of the World and the Seas and Oceans. We will also be learning to use a compass and developing our mapping skills.



**Science** – We will be identifying, naming and classifying the key features of different animals, as well as humans and learning how to sort them into their correct animal group. We will also be learning to develop simple food chains.



**Design and Technology** – The children will be designing and making their own ships, desert islands and exploring equipment.



**Art** – Children will be sketching explorers, printing and using clay to make models. They will also use their knowledge of materials to add texture to animal collages.

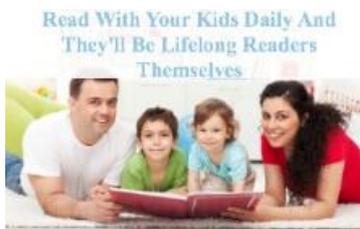


**Computing** – We will be focussing on developing basic communication skills using programs such as email and we will be exploring the use of 'control' programmes using the iPads.



### Homework

Please listen, read and share stories as often as you can with your children, talking about events from the story and identifying any new or tricky words. Please ensure your child brings their Reading Folder to school every day.



Homework, targeted at your child's ability will be sent home on a Friday. This will include spellings and either a Maths, English or Topic piece of work. Remember to practise the 100 / 200 key words and the weekly spellings, spellings will continue to be tested on a Friday. Please return homework by the following Thursday.

### P.E

We continue to have P.E twice a week on a Monday and Tuesday. One of these will be outside so please ensure your child has suitable labelled outdoor clothing, ie: joggers/leggings, t-shirt, hoody and trainers. We encourage that children should leave PE kits in school all week, in case of a change of plan and to prevent forgotten kit on PE days.



### And a final plea...

#### Name Labelling

Now the weather is getting colder, **PLEASE** ensure that all your children's belongings, especially clothing, coats, gloves, hats etc are clearly labelled.

#### Show and Tell

Children may bring in objects, books, pictures or drawings **linked to the topic**. We also enjoy hearing about special achievements and rewards from out of school activities.

#### Spare Clothing

If anyone has spare clothing (pants, socks and trousers) to fit 5, 6 and 7 year olds, we would appreciate them to use, in case of accidents.

### Upcoming Dates for your diary – details to follow

- Jan 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> – Parent Evening
- Jan 17<sup>th</sup> – 'Exploring Europe' Investigation Day
- Feb 13<sup>th</sup> – Discovering Native America
- Mar 13<sup>th</sup> – YEAR 2 parents SATs information evening @ 5.00pm (strictly no children)
- Mar 28<sup>th</sup> – 'Around the World in 80 Days' assembly for parents @ 2.30pm

We look forward to another exciting term

Thank you for your continued support

From the Key Stage One Team

