

Wagtail Class

Summer Term Newsletter



Dear Parents,

Well can you believe it-we are in our final term! Whilst wondering where the time has gone you only need to look at the children to see how they have grown and it's great to think of all that they have achieved. We know that this will continue throughout the next term as we continue to not only aim high, but prepare for year two!

This half term sees us take the excitement of the Easter holiday and the arrival of the sun to think about holidays. Once again this will support all areas of our learning. Read on to find out how...

Literacy



Whilst Top5 continues to reinforce and cement all the non-fiction skills that the children have learnt this year we are now going to be exploring a wealth of fiction. They will be looking closely at a stories setting and through role play they will learn more about the characters, using them to retell stories.

As they begin their travels, they will pick up tales along the way from countries we visit, taking time to explore the patterns and rhyme that make them distinctive whilst helping them to learn more about the culture.

Now the children are progressing so well with their 'reading books' they will be encouraged to take these skills and apply the strategies to a wide range of reading material and activities - after all, they will need to choose good destinations and suitable accommodation and will especially need to make sure the information on their tickets and reservations are correct!

Numeracy



In Numeracy the children will further develop their knowledge and understanding of numbers up to 100. This will include reading, writing, ordering, comparing numbers and using a range of mathematical vocabulary. The Wagtails will apply skills of addition, subtraction and multiplication to mathematical problems and extend their range of mental calculation strategies. Additionally, they will be tackling word problems, money, measurement, capacity and place value. What a busy term!

Science



With cross-curricular links to our topic about 'Holidays' and with strong links to Maths, the children will experience scientific activities in a range of different contexts. The Wagtails will also be learning more about 'Growing Plants'. We look forward to seeing the results!

P.E.



We will be venturing out now that the weather is set to change!! Please prepare your child's P.E bag for the English summer! So, a long with their normal PE kit please include a tracksuit/jogging suit bottoms and top! It's also time to include **outdoor footwear**! The children will be developing their skills of control using small equipment in games and travelling far in athletics!

History



Please be prepared: to help the children's learning in history we will not only be asking for photographs of their holidays but also of family members, such as yourselves and grandparents. These will provide the children with an enjoyable prompt as they remember their own holiday experiences whilst older photographs will help them to compare holidays taken in the past, looking at what is the same and what has changed.

Geography



With 'imaginary' trips and holidays all around the world the children will be exhausted! The Wagtails will be learning about the continents and their main physical features. We will learn about some countries and compare climates and cultures. The children will find out about transport, the things people do on holiday and what people wear.

Art



We will be looking at how holidays are represented in various art forms and use a range of materials to present our own holiday memories. Also, we will study artwork by a famous foreign artist and use *their* ideas and techniques to recreate pictures and paintings to display.

ICT



ICT will play a key role this term and the children will be learning that this doesn't just refer to laptops. When creating an appropriate means of booking and checking in the computers will be used to develop keyboard skills further and their mouse skills will help them to explore new programs, clicking on icons to create interesting ways of presenting information on passports and tickets. As we will be travelling far and wide the children will be learning to save and retrieve this information so it can be used many times. Cameras (both digital, film and video) will help the children to capture their present travels whilst recalling happy memories from past holidays. And of course, the listening centre will provide entertain on the long journeys with the occasional interruption from a tannoy announcement!

RE

Having learnt about the Christian significance of the favourite festivals, Christmas and Easter the children will learn more about Christianity and common symbols before beginning to learn about other religions.

Music



The World's music **will** be heard in the Wagtail's classroom! In music lessons this term the children will use a range of percussion instruments to explore timbre, tempo and the dynamics of music.

In **SEAL** lessons the theme this half-term is 'Relationships', leading on to 'Changes' in preparation for the next school year.

Homework

A piece of literacy and maths homework will come home every Friday in the children's book bags. A short explanation if required will be attached. To ensure you get valuable 'family time' and to limit the rush of returning it by Monday we ask that homework is returned by Wednesday, when book bags should also be returned. Many thanks!

Thank you for your support! Should you have any queries about anything at all, please do not hesitate to ask, our door is always open at the end of the school day!

Kind Regards, Mrs Kimberley Hiller and Mrs Anneke Beecroft