

Dear Parents/Carers,
 Welcome back after the half term, we hope that you all had a restful two weeks together. We are now into our second half of the Autumn term and have lots more exciting learning planned for your child. This is the work that the children will be covering over the following term in KS1:

History:
 As part of our local history unit we will be learning about the Pretoria Pit Disaster as part of our local history topic. We will be looking at how the disaster unfolded and why coal mining was important to Westhoughton.

DT:
 In DT, we will be looking at our new topic of food and our final product will be Pizza. To start we will look at how to maintain a healthy diet, exploring the 'Eat-well Plate'. We will evaluate food groups and hygiene in our practise, then we will identify and choose the toppings we want to put onto our pizza.

Science:
 In Year 1, we will be looking at everyday materials. We will start by naming materials and go on to look at the properties using a variety of vocabulary to help us. By the end of this unit, we will be able to sort materials and carry out investigations using different materials.
 In Year 2, we will be carrying on our learning about animals. We will begin to look at what animals need to grow and survive. We will about the importance of healthy eating and begin to learn about the different food groups. Then we will look at different types of exercise and what impact they have on our bodies. Next, we will learn about good hygiene and complete an investigation to look at how germs are spread.

PE:
 In PE we will be learn all about awareness in our indoor PE session. In outdoor PE we will be learning to use our awareness skills and applying them into different games.

PE days:
 Robins: Monday & Tuesday
 Owls: Monday & Thursday

RE:
 In RE this half term we will be focussing on Christianity. Our key question this half term is 'What do Christians believe God is like?'
 We will be learning about what a parable is, looking at how Christians learn about God, how they believe God is loving, fair and forgiving and about how they worship God and try to live in ways that please him.



PSHE:
 In PSHE, this term's theme remains as relationships. Firstly, we will define the behaviours of being kind, being helpful and being respectful, identifying the difference that these can have on someone's feelings. Next, we will acknowledge what the word 'privacy' means, including noting when words/actions are wanted or unwanted. Lastly, we will look at what we should do if we are worried about something of this nature in school, at home or online.



Computing:
 In Computing we are focusing on Digital Literacy. This will include developing our typing skills and understanding of the keyboard functions. We will be using these to create information pages about The Great Fire of London.



Music:
 In Music we will be listening to different hip-hop and reggae songs and using our listening and appraising skills to talk about them. Next, we will practise clapping and playing the pulse as well as a variety of rhythms. There will also be lots of singing as we learn our Christmas songs!



Please ensure your child is always fully prepared for the school day with their school bag, reading record & reading book, homework, and anything else they may have been asked to bring in.



Home Learning:

- Read at home for 15-20 minutes every day
- Practice spellings
- Learn times tables
- Create one example from the half termly project list.



Home Reading: Please ensure that your child reads 5 times a week

Reading Challenge
 5 x= Green
 2/3/4= Yellow
 0/1= Red



Twitter Pages
 Each class has a Twitter page which is updated regularly. You can see all the exciting things we have been getting up to in school and how hard the children are working. Please follow us to keep updated!



If your child achieves green for the week, they will be entered into a special prize draw!
Only books that children take home from school will go towards the reading challenge – either the home reader or a book from the 100 Book Challenge. This will ensure that your child is reading books appropriate for their ability.

Robins: @GatesRobins
Owls: @Gates_Owls



Seesaw is an app we use to track your child's learning and progress throughout the year. We will send out additional information on how you can view your children's work as well as how to use this app to share WOW moments from home with us in school.