

Spring Term in the Balloon Room



January 2020

Dear Parents,

A very happy New Year to you! I hope you all had a wonderful family Christmas break, but with lots of fun too. In this spring term letter, you will see a synopsis of what your children will be learning across our curriculum.

Classroom Organisation.

During the spring term, I will continue to teach numeracy, science and sports. Rebecca will teach literacy, geography, history, PSHE and oracy for both year groups, and Clare will teach French and art.

PE

The Balloons will continue to follow an active sporting curriculum:-

Monday: P.E. at Golden Lane (9.00-10.30am)

Tuesday: Swimming at Golden Lane (9.05-10.30am) until half term, P.E. at Golden Lane (9.00-10:30 am) until the end of term.

Wednesday: Sports at Coram's Fields (1.15-3.30pm)

Friday: Tennis at Golden Lane (9.00-10.30am)

Please note that swimming is part of the curriculum, therefore your child is expected to swim if in school. If for any reason your child is unable to attend swimming, or participate in any other sporting activity, but can still attend school, I would appreciate a note for my records.

Reading

The children will continue to select their own material and should by now have read several genres from their reading passports and stamped them accordingly. We still expect the children to aim to read a book in a week, but an extension can be agreed by me if the reading material is challenging and/or the book is very long. I am very happy for the children to read their own books for home in addition to those from our library, but they must also be recorded in their diaries. The children are regularly reminded that they must continue to update the diary themselves, which will allow them to record all the books they have completed and which pages they have reached on a daily basis. The diaries are checked by me every day with a view to monitoring reading progress, but will be "signed off" every half term by Rebecca. Please ensure the diaries are kept in the homework folder, as occasional messages from me may be sent home.

Humanities and Science

Here are the topics the Balloons will be covering this term:-

Geography: Australasia. The children will be learning about the natural wonders of Australia, the wildlife, the indigenous people, New Zealand and its people and the South Pacific Islands.

History: Historical Sources. This is always an interesting topic, because the children will have the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of history through investigating a variety of primary and secondary sources.

States of Matter: The children will be exploring the nature of "matter" and other subjects such as evaporation and condensation, the water cycle, freezing and melting. They will be busy with lots of exciting experiments and practical lessons!

I really enjoyed the first term and am looking forward to new challenges and developments in the children in the spring term. Please remember that I am always available, should you wish to discuss any issues.

Thank you for your continued support.

Robert