



Pioneers' Spring Newsletter



Welcome back after your Christmas break! Mrs Dixon and I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year.

This half-term, the children will be taking part in a Mini Adventure called 'Crime Through Time'. This Mini Adventure will have a History and PSHE focus, with the children studying how crime and justice has changed from Anglo-Saxon to modern times. Our class novel of Holes by Louis Sachar will further explore themes of justice, fairness and destiny and form an integral part of our literacy curriculum this half term.

Reading and Spelling

Over the next few weeks, we will be undertaking an audit of our class free reader library, with the intention of giving the children a guided selection of novels that will ensure they have a breadth of reading experience throughout Year 5&6. In the meantime, the children will continue to select their books as normal and we will send information about our new class libraries shortly.

The children will continue to be set spelling activities based upon the spelling unit they have studied that week. Spelling rules will be shared on a Monday for a test the following Monday. The first set of spelling rules will be set on Google Classroom on Monday 10th January for a test the following Monday (17th January). Please remember that the spellings set as part of the activities on Google Classroom are just examples of the rule the children are learning that week, the spelling test will be based upon words that follow that rule.

PE and The Felton Mile

Felton Mile - we will still endeavour to run a mile on Wednesday mornings. We will not resume our route around Felton until after February half-term. As long as playground conditions are not icy, we will run the mile on the playground. *Please can children continue to come in on Wednesdays dressed for PE.* The Pioneers will also be taking part in a dance lesson every Wednesday afternoon, so school uniform will not be necessary on a Wednesday, the children can remain in their PE kits from the run. However, please remember that windows in the classroom remain open at all times to provide adequate ventilation, so the children will require warm layers (jogging bottoms and school jumpers) to keep them warm.

On Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays the children should come to school in normal school uniform.

Weekly Timetable

I will continue to teach the Pioneers on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Mr Johnson will be taking a lead in the teaching and learning in Pioneers on Thursdays. Fridays will follow the same structure as the Autumn term, with the children taking part in Ukuleles, RE, Collective Worship, CLICs/BMBTs and Forest Schools.

Friday Forest School

Please can we ask that your child comes to school on Fridays ready for Outdoor Learning.

The children can wear/bring:

- Warm trousers, in line with school uniform colours (ones that can get dirty)
- Warm socks/ welly socks
- A change of footwear (walking boots or wellies)
- Layered tops – t-shirts/long sleeved tops
- School jumper / cardigan
- The school will provide waterproof coats and trousers

I look forward to continuing the year as we have begun. The Pioneers should be so proud of their achievements so far this academic year. They have been wonderful eco-warriors during our 'Plastic Fantastic?' topic and I am sure they will prove to be equally fantastic historians!

Nikki Gamston