



Hawthorn Class



Autumn 1 2019



Welcome Back

Welcome back to a brand new year at Cottingham, with an exciting time ahead. I have been so proud of the class and how they have set the expectations for the coming year, showing really good listening and working hard. It looks like we may really have a great year 6 to set the example for all the other children. Year 6 is of course a year with lots of changes and challenges but it is also a year than can be a great deal of fun! There is a lot to look forward to over the course of the year and I am so excited to see where the year will take us. I just know it's going to be a memorable one! I am sure that you will have noticed our new classrooms that have been completed over the summer. I personally think that they look fantastic and I really hope that the children are just as pleased with them as a great place to learn and will continue to look after them as well as they have already done so.



Love Reading

This year we have changed how we are completing reading in key stage 2 to encourage a love of reading of a variety of different types of books. To begin with, we have decided to no longer have reading diaries in key stage 2. We would of course still like children to be reading as often as possible but would like them to see this as a more personal and natural experience that is not dampened by having to write down every time they read with a greater focus on reading to themselves. Children will though have a list of 100 recommended books for year 5 and 6 to give them a challenge of books to complete over the course of their time in upper key stage 2.



Learning Quest

This term our topic is called "Home is where the Habitat is".

Behaviour & Reward

Our behaviour system has changed this year across the whole school. After two successful years using the snakes and ladders system, we now wanted to put into place a system where children were encouraged to follow the expectations set by the school, not for the sake of material reward, but more to want to achieve their best for personal achievement, positive recognition and also getting the best education that they can. Going above and beyond will continue to be recognised through, for example, star of the week certificates and there will still be plenty of opportunities to earn team points for these rewards and also events that take place throughout the school year. The improved behaviour of the children have shown us that they are ready to take this challenge! Please see the website for more information



I hope that children have come home this week telling you all about our new curriculum. We have changed our curriculum so it is now enquiry based and the children have an end goal. For this unit, the children have to find a new habitat for animals from the rain forest. To do this, children will be investigating what the rain forest is like, the animals and people of the rain forests, how animals adapt for the different habitats that they live in. Children in Hawthorn will also be finding out about evolution theories and how these help to explain how well different animals are suited to different habitats. We will also have the opportunity to complete some art work based on animal groups and rainforests. Finally children will have the opportunity to compare rainforests to local habitats. Please see the website for more information about our new curriculum.



With God's help we CARE-BUILD-FOLLOW-THINK



This term, in our PE, we are concentrating on cognitive skills, allowing children to practise reviewing their skills and improving performance. We have been concentrating on balancing and team sports that involve using different strategies to manoeuvre balls between teams and areas. PE will take place on a **Tuesday and a Wednesday** afternoon but, as ever, please ensure that the children have PE kits in school all week.



Literacy

To begin our year in English, we will be completing a facing our fears story, our text focus being a story called The Nightmare Man. For this unit of English, we will begin by learning the story and focusing on how it is created, practising many grammar, sentence structure, vocabulary and punctuation skills as we do so. We will then plan our own version of this story as a class and finally the children will write their own facing our fears story, using the structure. You can support children by asking them to tell you the story, explain words from the text and the features of a good portal story. **Our writing targets for this term are checking for sense, using subordinate clauses to start sentences and use of personification .**



Numeracy

We will be continuing to use Maths Mastery to teach our maths sessions this year. This will mean that the children will get the chance to explore their maths in great depth, looking at different pictures and models to show how the concepts they are learning about work. They also get lots of opportunity to talk about their understanding both as a class and in group work. This term in Hawthorn our topics are: numbers to ten million, negative numbers, rounding numbers and addition and subtraction.

Find out more <http://whiterosemathshub.co.uk/>



Homework

This week new spellings will be set for both the year 5s and year 6s. I will also be asking the children to ensure that they are practising their multiplications at home. Weekly maths homework will continue to be set on a Friday with My Maths to be completed by the following Friday but , as always, please feel free to use the site to practise any skills.

Dates for the diary



Autumn term 1 (Also see website)

- 12th September- instrumental lessons begin
- 20th September- Kids of Steel (tbc)
- 25th September- Book fair PTFA
- 26th September- Peterborough Cathedral service (Selected children)
- 10th October- world mental health day
- 15th October- NSPCC workshops
- 24th October- Team day
- 25th October- break up for half term
- 4th November- school re-opens
- 11th November- year 6 leave for Rock UK
- 15th November- return from Rock UK
- 18th November – Hawthorn Parents Day (tbc)
- 27th November – Hawthorn Rock UK Worship

Collective Worship

Mon – Class Singing Worship **Tues/Wed – Whole Sch** Worship **Thur – Class** Worship **Fri – Special Awards**
Please come and join in with our Special Award Worship every Friday at **2:30**. We do ask that you bring along your singing voices. Who will receive the class Star of the Week/Headteacher's Award?

