

Nightingale Class Newsletter – Spring Term 2018

Welcome back to the start of the Spring term. We are very excited about this term’s topic. We will be investigating the impact that robots have had on our lives and will try to answer the question: Could robots ever rule the world? We are planning a visit to Plymouth University to see their robotics department and to meet iCub, the Gummi Arm, Pepper and the OWL (their resident robots). After half term our topic takes us to Japan! We will carry out a country study and greet visitors from Tavistock College for a Japanese workshop.

We are also looking forward to our Spring performance at the end of the term. The children will be involved in the writing and staging of this musical and more information will follow shortly.

Our curriculum overview is as follows:

**MATHS** Multiplying and dividing, Measures, Fractions

**ENGLISH**

The Iron Man, Playscripts, Myths and Legends

Playscripts

Myths and

**TOPIC** Could robots ever rule the world?



**PE**

Tag Rugby Dance

**SCIENCE**

Forces States of Matter

**RE/PSHE** Religion around the World

**COMPUTING** We are Programmers

**ART & DT** Clayton Bailey: Life-size robots Robot Artist: Eric Joyner

**MUSIC** Brass Instruments

**Reading**

Being able to read is a vital skill and one of the most important things your child will ever learn to do. Please try to read with your child as often as possible. Even fluent and confident readers benefit from reading to an adult. Try to ask them lots of questions about the book.

I am encouraging the children to write in their reading records more often. They should tell me about the text, what they liked, favourite characters and so on. They should be logging their own reading which should be signed after you have listened to your child read. Reading records are checked every Friday.

We have a new scheme in school called Accelerated Reader in which your child will be bringing home a book with an orange sticker on the spine. They can then do quizzes about the books they have read and can gain points to win prizes. The children are already very enthusiastic about this scheme.

**PE**

Our PE lessons are on a Monday and a Wednesday. It is likely that the majority of PE lessons this term will be outside so please make sure your child has a suitable PE kit in school on these days. **Please make sure that everything is** **named**.

**Homework**

The homework cards should be signed every week. I will also sign them and add test scores so that you can see how well your child is doing. There are spelling tests every Friday and a sheet is sent home with the spelling rule and words to learn. We will be working on our spellings in school every day.

Maths homework is learning their times tables. This is a very important skill for children to learn in year three that will help them in lots of other mathematical areas. We also have Times Tables Rockstars or MyMaths that the children can access online at home. Please let me know if your child has lost their passwords.

Reading has already been mentioned but please remember at least 5 reads each week and both the homework card and reading record should be signed.

**Walking Home**

If you are happy for your child to walk home unaccompanied, please let me know in writing. I will not let them leave school unless I have your permission.

**Equipment and Uniform**

We are always amazed by the amount of lost property that remains unclaimed at the end of every term. Named items, when found, will always be returned to the child so it is very important that all uniform and personal possessions are clearly named. Please check regularly as names do sometimes wash off. **All children need a warm and/or waterproof coat.**

Pencil cases (including pencils, a ruler, a rubber and coloured pencils) are useful but not essential.

Finally, if you would like to speak to me about anything then please see me on the playground before or after school. If you would like a longer appointment then send me a note or speak to the school office.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Heard

Year 3 Class Teacher

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