

General Class Information:

Values Education

This half term our Christian value is **TRUST** and our focus British Value is **Individual Liberty**. Our worships, PSHE and class discussions will be focused on our values. Please discuss them at home with your child and think of ways they can demonstrate/develop these values this half term.



PE dates/times

PE will continue to take place on a **Wednesday** afternoon. Reminders about correct PE kit can be found in your child's school planner. The Key Stage 2 after school club will continue on a Wednesday.

Swimming will take place every Monday afternoon. Again, there are reminders about swimming kit within the school diary. Please keep an eye on the newsletter for any updates about swimming or after school PE clubs.

Health and Safety

Please ensure that earrings are taken out for PE and swimming. Children will not be allowed to swim with earrings in.

It is really important that all children have access to water throughout the school day. Please ensure your child has a clean, labelled water bottle in school at all times.

School Planner

We hope you are continuing to find our new planners useful and are proving supportive to any school-led, home-learning activities, or additional activities you may wish to complete with your child(ren). Please do continue to refer to your child's new diary for guidance and as a place of communication between home and school. Teachers will be continuing to monitor how the children use their diaries frequently throughout the term and actively encouraging them to track their own learning by filling out their planners frequently.



Parent meeting dates

Please keep an eye on the website and newsletter for updates about after school events and meetings. However, here are a few key dates you may wish to put in the diary in advance:

Thursday 17th January—KS2 SATs information evening (6.30pm)

Friday 18th January—Celebration Worship (9.15am)

Friday 1st February—Celebration Worship (9.15am)

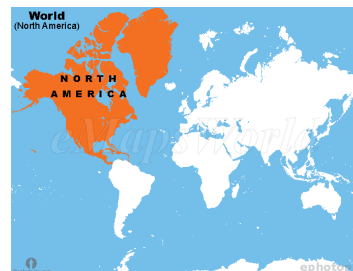
Friday 15th February—Celebration Worship at chapel (9.15am)

Yours Sincerely,
Mrs L Lafford



Celebrate Learning, Achieving and Friendship in God's Love

Theme- Land of the Free (North America)



White Tigers
Spring 2

WELCOME BACK

Welcome back to Spring Term! Below is a brief outline of what we will be learning in each subject this half term.

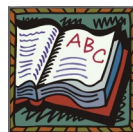
Please be aware that we will be spending the first two weeks of this half term finishing off some of the science and history lessons from our previous topic, 'Blitzed Brits' before moving onto our new theme described below.

Religious Education

This half term we start by answering the question, 'Was Jesus the Messiah?' as we track the 'big story' of the Bible through to the New Testament and the birth of Jesus Christ. The children will be identifying ways in which Jesus—the Saviour from God—is important to Christians in the world today and how He may make a difference to people's lives. Following this, we shall move onto a new topic, learning about what it means to be a Sikh.

Literacy

This term we shall be continuing with our class text, *Goodnight Mister Tom* by Michelle Magorian. As we progress through the text, we shall be writing news reports and flashback narratives. As we progress with our new topic—Land of the Free—and uncover stories about the Native Americans, we shall also be producing some discussion texts.



Maths



We begin the term with further work on division. Written methods are crucial for success in the arithmetic SATs paper, so please ensure that all children in year 6 are well practised with these (please see your child's planner for the formal written methods we teach in year 5/6). We will then turn our attention to fractions where we shall be finding fractions of amounts, learning how to find equivalence and adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing fractions alongside other material on decimal and percentage equivalences. Each week we will be using reasoning and problem solving activities to deepen our understanding.

Science

This half term we will be learning about Earth and Space. During this topic, we will be learning about the order and size of planets in our solar system, the rotation of earth in space and investigating how shadows prove the earth's movement. We will be looking at time zones and finding out how the position of the earth has a bearing on climate and seasons.



ICT

As well as discussing e-safety (as this is something we will always begin each half term with) we will also be exploring how we can use our school website to connect with the world outside our school building.

P.E

This half term the children will be taking part in weekly PE sessions to develop their skills in gymnastics. They shall also be swimming every Monday afternoon. Please see the back of this leaflet and your child's home-school link book for more information about PE.

Creative

Our topic this half term is all about North America. It is entitled the Land of the Free. Children will be learning about the geography of North America, looking at the countries of this continent and the states of the USA. Year 5/6 will be focussing on the natural features of the landscape of America, using their understanding of the earth in space to explain some of the variation in climate and biomes across the USA. We will also be exploring the presence of earthquakes and volcanoes in the USA and considering the positives and negatives of living on a fault line such as the San Andreas fault. At the end of our unit, we shall be considering the question—home or away?, and writing about our impressions of America in a discursive piece of writing.



French

In French this half term, we will be learning how to read, write and talk about the days of the week, months of the year, seasons and telling the time.

PSHE

Our PSHE focus for this half term is 'Me in the Wider World'. We shall be exploring sustainability and current environmental issues, focussing on ways in which we can impact on these in our local community and beyond.

Homework

Literacy -

Reading is a very important part of your child's learning. Children in Key Stage 2 are still expected to read for 30 minutes a day and record this in their school planners. Your child will have a levelled Accelerated Reader book to read at home. Once Accelerated Reader books have been read, your child will complete an online quiz in school to check their understanding. This is integral to the scheme and an important measure of your child's progress. Please discuss your child's reading book with them before they complete their quiz to check their understanding.

Spellings are usually sent home every Monday and are tested the following Monday (text updates will be sent out if these days change). Details of the spelling patterns covered in class will be attached to the top of the spelling homework sheets. Spelling homework can be completed on the sheets that will be sent home.

Maths -

This year, the children will continue to work towards their 'Under the Sea' mental maths targets as well as practising a core set of wider mental maths skills called 'KIRFs' (please see below). Practise towards mental maths skills and targets must be done at home in order for the children to progress through the scheme. Rewards are given in celebration assemblies for children completing their target level. For those who have completed the scheme, the children will be choosing their own maths targets (with consultation with the teacher).

New Homework Requirements

Our new KIRFs are working well to target and improve mental maths skills throughout school. Each half term, the children (Y1-6) will continue to be given a Key Instant Recall Fact (KIRF) to practise and learn at home as well as in school. A new information sheet detailing the KIRF and practical ideas for mastering the key facts is included in homework books.

For Y1-6, KIRF homework will be set by the class teacher once a fortnight (a SPaG-based task will be sent home on alternative weeks). The practise of these KIRFs has replaced our weekly creative style homework which we feel had become less effective in moving the children's learning forward.

All homework will be set on a Friday and is due in the following Thursday.