

# Year Two Newsletter

Our Driving Questions for the term are: **If I joined Dashwood school in 1902, what would it have been like? How would my life be different if I lived by the sea? Now I am moving up to KS2, what new opportunities and responsibilities will I have and how will I prepare myself for this?**

## History, Science & Geography

### Reflection and Celebrations for Term 5

Maple and Redwood classes all worked extremely hard over Term 5. There were so many things to celebrate including growing our own plants and creating our own puppets. The children dealt with a full term back at school after lockdown with resilience and determination. It's fair to say the children embraced all of the opportunities and learning experiences of the term with open arms. See the pictures below of some of the amazing outcomes and learning that took place.



### Literacy

We will begin the term with performance poetry, where we will be discussing, learning and performing a range of pirate poems and songs. Later on, in the term we will be learning the story **'The Lighthouse Keeper's Cat.'** We will be learning our version of this lost and found story over the next few weeks then the children will be writing their own. We have provided a copy of the story for you to share at home. Look out for the whole range of punctuation, including exclamatory sentences. These will be a particular focus for us. We will also be having a big push on spelling rules and patterns to make sure that children are applying these in their writing.

**At home:** A big push on practising spellings would really help out. These phonics websites would help also help them to secure their knowledge and understanding:

<http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>

<http://www.galacticphonics.com/>

### Numeracy

This term we will be continuing to recap on our key skills for the year in maths. We will be focussing on the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) and methods we can use to solve these problems including column addition & subtraction as well as grouping and sharing. We will also be looking at the relationship of problems through fact families. For example, I know  $17 + 4 = 21$ , so therefore I know  $21 - 4 = 17$ .

**At home:** Practise adding and subtracting 2-digit numbers and 1-digit numbers mentally. You can also use Pixl or Times Table Rockstar's to help practice times tables. Please let us know if you need your child's login details again so that you can access them.

### PE

This is an exciting term for both classes as it's the lead up to sports day. For our outside sessions (Every Friday and alternate Tuesdays) we will be practising the athletics skills we will need in order to do well in sports day! Both classes will also continue to have an indoor PE slot to learn dances for some of our pirate songs and to play ball games. These will be on alternate Tuesdays.

### Creative Curriculum

Our focus will primarily be History over the first few weeks where we will be focussing on the similarities and differences of attending Dashwood now and in 1902. Our focus will then move to science. Pupils will be learning about different animals and their habitats. We will first identify what living things need to survive and then we will identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats, noticing how these habitats are suited to the animals' survival. We will also look at some experiments, observing what we can see and writing up our findings. After this, we will focus our learning towards Geography, where we will recap some of our knowledge about the 7 continents from term 1, before comparing life at the seaside with life in Banbury.

## E – Safety

To round off the year, children will be recapping all of the important information they now know about how to stay safe online. They will discuss what you should do if you see something online that makes you feel sad or worried and also think about why age restrictions are important. If you should need any further information about how to keep your child safe online, please feel free to come and speak to us or visit the website below which has some useful resources for parents/carers on it.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety>

## Transition Days

As part of the transition process, all pupils will move into their new classes for the last two and a half days of term 6 (19<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup> July). This will give them the opportunity to feel settled before entering the long summer holidays. (Please note pupils in Year 2 will be re-classed for next year. We do this every few years to support future transitions and friendships. It is VITAL that ALL pupils attend these transition days as they will receive their homework for the holidays and be completing belonging activities with their new teacher(s).

## Dates

- Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June – inset day
- Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June – children return to school
- Friday 11<sup>th</sup> June – enterprise day within school time (more information to follow)
- Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> June – Celebration Assembly
- Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June – Sports Day
- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July – last day in current classes
- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July – Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July – Transition days with new class teacher.
- Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July – school ends at 1.45pm

Here is a copy of our story we will be learning.

### *The Lighthouse Keeper's Cat - Lost and Found story*

*Once upon a time there was Mr Grinling, Mrs Grinling and Hamish the cat who lived in a little white cottage on the cliffs. Hamish was a tubby, ginger cat who was very precious to Mr and Mrs Grinling. Some days Hamish went to work with Mr Grinling.*

*Suddenly one day on his way to the lighthouse, Hamish went missing! Mr Grinling and Mrs Grinling looked high and low but couldn't find him. "What shall we do?" they mumbled worriedly.*

*Meanwhile Hamish had gone for a walk to the village. He met a tabby cat who wanted to play but Hamish ate his food and the tabby cat shooed him away.*

*Then he met a little baby but all the baby did was scream and scream and scream. What a horrible sound!*

*After that he met an elderly man however the man didn't want to stroke Hamish so Hamish just ran off. How grumpy he was!*

*To his amazement it started to get dark and Hamish found himself in a dirty, old yard. Hamish looked around he did not like this place.*

*At that moment some cats appeared who were not pleased to see Hamish. "Who invited you?" snarled a tatty, grey cat. "Leave here and don't come back!" demanded the one-eyed, black cat.*

Luckily Hamish knew what to do so he leapt up to the top of the tallest tree. He peered over the branches and something caught his eye. It was the flashing light from the lighthouse.

Quick as a flash he leapt down, sprinted away from the mean cats and followed the light all the way home. Hamish ran and ran and ran until he reached the little, white cottage.

When he arrived safely home he meowed as loud as a lion's roar. Thankfully Mr Grinling heard him. "HAMISH!" he screamed.

Mr Grinling was delighted to see Hamish home again. From that day on Hamish never went missing again.