Autumn 2
KS1 Curriculum Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,
Welcome back after the half term, we hope that you all had a restful two weeks together. We are now into our second half of the Autumn term and have lots more exciting learning planned for your child. This is the work that the children will be covering over the following term in KS1:

History- The Pretoria Pit Disaster
This term, children will be learning about the Pretoria Pit Disaster and what happened to the local community of Westhoughton. They will explore the events surrounding the disaster and learn why it was such an important moment in history. We will discuss how the disaster affected families and the wider community.

DT:
This term, the children will explore mechanisms and how they are used to make things move. They will investigate different types of mechanisms and look at how moving parts work.

Science:
Both Year 1 and Year 2 will be exploring different materials this half term and learn about their properties. They will investigate materials such as wood, plastic, metal, glass and fabric and consider how they look and feel. The children will compare materials and discuss why certain materials are suitable for particular purposes. Year 1 will also continue to learn about seasonal change, observing how the weather and environment change from Autumn to Winter. Year 2 children will explore sustainability and begin to understand the importance of reducing waste, reusing materials and looking after our environment.

PE:
In PE, we will be learn to use our co-ordination and balance when working with different equipment in our indoor PE session. In outdoor PE, we will be learning to use our awareness skills and applying them into different games.

PE days:
Robins: Tuesday & Friday
Owls: Monday & Thursday

RE:
This half term our RE focus is 'What do Christians believe God is like?' The unit will explore Christian beliefs about God and how Christians describe God.



PSHE:
In PSHE, our theme remains as relationships. Firstly, we will define the behaviours of being kind, being helpful and being respectful, identifying the difference that these can have on someone's feelings. Next, we will acknowledge what the word 'privacy' means, including noting when words/actions are wanted or unwanted. Lastly, we will look at what we should do if we are worried about something of this nature in school, at home or online.



Computing:
In Computing, we are focusing on Digital Literacy. This will include developing our typing skills and understanding of the keyboard functions. We will be using these to create information pages about our learning in other subjects.

Music:
In Music, we will listen to different types of music in the lead up to our Nativity. We will explore, create and perform a new piece of music each week. Next, we will practise clapping and playing the pulse as well as a variety of rhythms. There will also be lots of singing as we learn our Christmas play songs!

Please ensure your child is always fully prepared for the school day with their school bag, water bottle, reading record & reading book, homework, and anything else they may have been asked to bring in.

Home Learning:
- Read at home for 15-20 minutes every day
- Practice spellings
- Learn times tables
- Create one example from the half termly project list



Home Reading: **Please ensure that your child reads 5 times a week**

Reading Challenge
5 x= Green
2/3/4= Yellow
0/1= Red



If your child achieves green for the week, they will be entered into a special prize draw!

Social Media Pages
You can see all the exciting things we have been getting up to in school on our school twitter/ X page. Please follow us on here, Facebook and instagram to keep updated.
@TheGatesPrimary

Books that children take home from school will go towards the reading challenge – either the home reader or a book from the 100 Book Challenge, plus a 'reading for pleasure' book of their choice. This will ensure that your child is reading books appropriate for their ability.

Seesaw is an app we use to track your child's learning and progress throughout the year. We will send out additional information on how you can view your children's work as well as how to use this app to share WOW moments from home with us in school.