



# Autumn 1

## Doves (Y4) Curriculum Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable summer break. It has been wonderful to see the children return, excited and ready to begin their new classes. They have settled in beautifully, showing curiosity, enthusiasm, and a real eagerness to learn. Please see below for the outline of what the children will be learning this half term:

### History:

This term in History, our unit is titled 'Weavers at Work'. We will explore the local history of the cotton mills in Westhoughton and the surrounding areas. Our focus will be on the working conditions experienced by local people, especially children, who often endured harsh and unsafe environments in these factories. We will also learn about key figures from the Victorian era and delve into the Industrial Revolution in Britain. As part of our study, we'll compare life in the 19th and 20th centuries with how we live today.

### Art:

Our Art Unit this half term is 'Sculpture'. We will be using inspiration from L.S Lowry; an artist famous for his oil paintings of industrial landscapes. We will study the work of Lowry to develop our own drawing style. We will look in-depth at the human form when drawing. We will then use knowledge and inspiration to manipulate and construct our own stickmen using clay.

**Science:** This half term's topic is: Animals and Humans – Health and Nutrition. We are learning about the skeletal system! Can the children tell you yet how many bones there are in the human body yet? We will explore why animals have differing skeletal systems and why they differ from animal to animal. The children will also be able to explain how the muscles, joints and tendons work together after creating their very own Musculoskeletal System! (Please send any tinfoil, cling film or similar cardboard tubes our way!) After this, the children will learn more about why it is important to look after their bodies and how different food has different nutritional value. They will consider which foods fuel our bodies and why it is important to have a healthy balanced diet.



### PE:

During outdoor PE, the children will begin the new school year by working on the fundamental movement skills of 'Agility, Balance & Coordination'. These will then be applied throughout the year. During the indoor lesson, they will be working on developing their Gymnastics knowledge.

### PE days:

**Doves:** Tuesday and Thursday

### RE:

Our enquiry question for this half term is: 'Why is the Trinity important to Christians?'

Our learning will focus on Christianity and the concept of the Holy Trinity – The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit. We will explore how this belief is reflected in religious ceremonies, such as baptisms, and examine the significance of various religious items used during these services.



**PSHE:** This half-term's topic is: Positive

Friendships and Bullying. We will be exploring what positive, healthy friendships look like and learning to recognise examples of hurtful behaviour. In addition, we will focus on how to communicate respectfully online, how to identify potential risks, and what steps to take when asking for help.



### Computing:



Our computing unit this half-term is 'Digital Citizenship', where we explore what it means to be a responsible and respectful member of the online community. We are learning to explain how our online identities can differ from real life, develop an understanding of the impact of screen time and gaining a deeper awareness of cyberbullying.

### Music:



We are learning how to play glockenspiels this half term in music and looking at how to use the pulse of the song to play one, two, three and four beat notes. We are learning some key notation and practising singing within a group.

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



**Please can all children bring in an old shirt or t shirt (the bigger the better) that they can wear to protect their uniform during messy activities and Art.**

**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!

Only 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. This will ensure that your child is reading books appropriate for their ability.



### Attendance

If your child is unwell, please contact school before 8:30am in the morning where possible.

Classroom doors close at 8:50am; children should enter and sign in through the office after this time.

Children arriving after 9:20am will be marked as a 'U' (unauthorised absence) for the morning session in line with local authority procedures.

Last year, school achieved an overall attendance of 95.71% - a 1.15% increase from the previous year and 0.91% above national. Thanks for your support!

### 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



### X (Twitter) Pages

Each class has a Twitter page which is updated regularly. You can see all the exciting things we have been getting up to in school and how hard the children are working. Please follow us to keep updated!  
@GatesDoves



### Seesaw

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.

