



Autumn 1

Woodpeckers' Curriculum Newsletter



Dear Parents,

Welcome back! We hope you had a lovely break over Summer - it is great to see the children after such a long time! They have been wonderful in school and we are really proud of how quickly they have settled in.

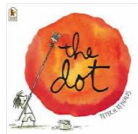
History:

We have a very exciting History topic this half term. To celebrate the 20th anniversary of the opening of The Gates, we will be learning all about the history of our school! We will be looking at how and when our school was built, why there was a need for the new school, what school was like before The Gates was built and we will compare life in school now to Victorian times.



Art:

We will be basing this half term's learning on the book 'The Dot' by Peter H Reynolds. We will practise our skills of design and evaluation before creating a final bottle top piece to be displayed in school.



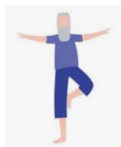
Science:

Our Science unit this half term is 'Animals Including Humans'. Within this unit we will look at how animals are classified, how we can categorise animals based on what they eat, what animals need to survive and how animals produce offspring. We will use comparative skills whilst looking at life cycles and use iPads to research and find out facts about our favourite wild animals.



PE:

In PE we will be working on our movement skills. We will learn to statically balance on small and large body parts, show an efficient running style and explore different ways of jumping.



PE days – Tuesday and Friday. Please ensure your child comes into school in the appropriate PE kit and have a bottle of water in school.

RE:

In RE this half term we will be looking at the question: Who is Muslim and how do they live? We will explore what is important to me, what the word community means, what Shahadah is and know that Muslims have 99 Names of Allah and give a simple description about what some of them mean.



PSHE:

This half term we will be looking at how we build relationships. We will focus on what a good friend looks like, how to be a good friend, how to resolve conflict, what a friend should look like and recognise what bullying is and how to prevent it



Computing:

In Computing we are focusing on Digital Citizenship. We will be discussing how to communicate with people in a kind and considerate way; what information we should and shouldn't share online and how we can keep ourselves safe online.



Music:

This half term we will be learning the skills of sharing an opinion of a song, performing the chorus of a song in a group, moving and clapping in time with a piece of music, performing the verse of a song in a group, creating and performing simple patterns and taking on the role of a music conductor.



Please ensure your child is always fully prepared for the school day with their school bag, PE kit, 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!

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. Reading books will be changed on a Friday.

Our School Twitter page @GatesWoodpecker



The Gates Primary - Woodpeckers Class Page

We have a new school twitter page which we update regularly. You can see all the exciting things we have been getting up to in school and how hard the children are all working. Please give us a follow to keep updated!