



# Spring 1 Eagles' Curriculum Newsletter



Dear Parents,

Welcome back! We hope you had a lovely break over Christmas and wish you all the best for the year ahead. It is great to see the children again after the holidays and they very much enjoyed the pantomime on their first day back. There is lots of exciting learning ahead this half term:

## History: Invaders and Settlers (Romans/Vikings):

This unit will explore the invaders and settlers who helped shape Britain into the place it is today. Children will create a timeline of British settlers, stemming all the way back to the Iron Age. There will be a particular focus on the Romans, and children will investigate their everlasting impact on our island. As the unit progresses, we will look at why the Romans left and what they left behind...



## Art:

We will be basing this half term's learning on the artist Peter Thorple. The children will begin by analysing and evaluating existing artwork, before developing their skills of colour mixing through various watercolour techniques. Following on from this, they will design and create their own spaced themed painting.



## Science: Earth and Space



Space: the final frontier. This half term's Science lessons promise to be very exciting. We will start by looking back approximately 4.5 billion years ago to how our very existence became possible - the formation of the Solar System. From here, we will be taking a closer look at the Earth, Sun and Moon as well as studying the characteristics of the planets. We will learn how gravity plays an important role in our Solar System, from planetary movement, to its impact on the tides. Children will also be learning about the phases of the Moon and will end the half term by creating their very own model Solar System.

**RE:** In this unit, we will be answering the question, "Why do Hindus try to be good?". Children will explore religious texts to help to understand the reasons for religious beliefs. There will be a particular focus on the beliefs: Samsara, Karma and Dharma with children understanding how this affects the way that someone might live their life. Towards the end of the unit, we will be learning about Gandhi and the example he sets about how to live.

**PE:** This half term, children will be testing and improving their skills in a number of Indoor Athletics disciplines. Children will be taught how to improve their accuracy and technique in field events such as the triple jump and javelin, as well as track events such as sprints, running at distance and a range of relay events. Children will be challenged to beat their personal bests in an end of half term competition.

*Please ensure your child has their PE kit in school at all times. This includes shorts, t-shirt, suitable footwear and a tracksuit for colder weather.*

## PSHE:

In this unit, we will be looking at skills which are needed for the wider world. This will have a particular focus on money. Children will learn about banking and the importance of budgeting. We will cover dangers associated with money, such as security, fraud and gambling addictions. To conclude, we will look at the impact, both positive and negative, of social media on society.



## French:

This half term, children will be learning how to order a selection of food and drinks from a French cafe. Children will be taught to order breakfast, snacks and how to ask for the bill.



## Music:

This term, our focus for Music is 'Settlers and Invaders - Getting ready for battle'. Throughout the unit, we will be listening to different styles of Music in History (Vikings, Romans and Celts), comparing and analysing the songs. From this, we will experiment with a range of instruments and create our own notations to recreate a battle score.



## Computing: Computer science

This term in computing we will be focusing on computer science. We will learn how to use logical reasoning to explain how simple algorithms work. Consequently, we will use Scratch software to create our own algorithms. To conclude this unit, we will apply these skills to create our own interactive quiz.

## Our School Twitter page @GatesEagles



[Edit profile](#)

The Gates Primary - Doves Class Page  
@GatesDoves

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!

## Home learning:

- Read at home for 15-20 minutes every day.
- Practice spellings using Spelling Shed (test on a Friday)
- Learn times tables and complete maths tasks on Maths Shed (x table test on Friday)
- Complete at least one activity on the Homework Topic Web per half term.



## 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, or completed comprehensions on Reading Plus will go towards the Reading Challenge.

