



# Deer Class Newsletter

## Term 4

Welcome back everyone!

I hope you all had a great half term (despite the wet weather we've continued to have!) and are ready for Term 4.

We have gone past the halfway point of the year and, despite it already having been very busy, there is an incredible amount left to come. With secondary school places being shared next week and end of year assessments just a term away, this is likely to be a time in the year where the children (and yourselves) may wish to have additional support/guidance. We are here to help in any way we can over the remaining months of the academic year - please do not hesitate to get in contact as and when you need with either with myself or any other member of the school team.

We regularly discuss class targets or a focus for the class to help the children to develop aspects of their learning I feel need greater focus. One area we have discussed recently is attitudes and effort put into home learning. This is something that many of the class need to work on as the expectation between Primary and Secondary in this area is enormous. My request to yourselves is to encourage the children as much as possible with any home learning tasks they have been set and remind them of the importance of taking ownership of their learning at this stage. They are an incredible group of children who need to realise their potential and push themselves to achieve the best they can; it really must come from them though.

We will have an opportunity later this term to meet at parent consultations but, in the meantime, please feel free to come and see me before or after school if you need to, or email me at [daniel.warner@bad.kent.sch.uk](mailto:daniel.warner@bad.kent.sch.uk) if that is easier.

Kind regards,

Mr Warner (and Mrs Douglas)

### Key Dates

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March** - World Book Day

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> - Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March** - Assessment Week (Y6 SATs Practise)

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March** - Science Week Workshop

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March** - Comic Relief/Red Nose Day

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> March** - Parent Consultations

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March** - Cake Sale (run by Field Maple House Captains)

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April** - School Discos (KS2 4.45pm - 5.45pm)

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April** - Class Trip (Turner Art Gallery in Margate)

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April** - Last day of Term 4

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April** - Start of Term 5





## Topics Overview

**English** - This term we will be continuing our focus from last term's unit on traditional tales, legends and fables. We will then look at a unit on poetry and move towards work on developing writing techniques, creating atmosphere and using language for impact at the end of term. There will be an increased emphasis on independent written work, which will contribute to final teacher assessment at the end of Year 6. We will continue regular spelling practice and grammar work which will develop understanding in writing and support preparation for end of year assessments.

**Maths** - Topics this term will include work on: area, perimeter and volume; ratio; simple algebra; problems involving measures - specifically time and timetables; problems involving money. Many sessions will begin to be dedicated to revising key concepts that need further focus. We will also continue with regular arithmetic sessions, aiming to improve accuracy and pace of work. Through all our learning, there will continue to be a large emphasis on problem solving and reasoning.

**Science** - This term, our topic areas will include: the human circulatory system (including parts of the heart and blood vessels), sound (focusing on the effect of vibrations), light (focusing on refraction), irreversible changes and classification keys.

**R.E** - This term we will be spending time looking at aspects of Christianity, Islam and Hinduism and our focus will be to consider the question; what difference does it make to believe in Ahimsa (harmlessness), Grace (the generosity of God), and Ummah (community)?

**P.E** - PE lessons will continue to take place on Mondays and Tuesdays. This term the children will be looking at hockey in outdoor sessions and Key Steps gymnastics in their indoor sessions.

**PSHE** - The children will continue last term's focus on 'how can the media influence us?' before looking at the question 'how can money affect us?' During these sessions, the children will look at finance and its role in people's lives; what is meant by interest, loan, tax and debt; how resources are allocated and how this affects individuals, communities and the environment.

**Computing** - This term, the children will practise some key computing skills, such as word processing and digital presentations, in preparation for secondary school. They will also explore digital music production, creating their own instrumentals using programmes on Purple Mash. It would be helpful if the children had a set of headphones that they could bring in from home for these lessons, to enable them to hear their work better.

**Art** - This term in art, we will be completing optical illusion themed work, focusing mainly on the artist Bridget Riley.

**History/Geography** - This term, we will be looking at natural resources the planet has to offer and which ones we have in the UK. We will look at how these natural resources are used to produce energy, the pros and cons of using renewable and non-renewable energy and how different key materials are made, considering the impact on our energy consumption.

**Music** - This term the children will focus on musicals and the power of the music within these productions. They will look at comparisons, share opinions and consider reasons for popular songs.

**French** - During these sessions, the children will revise previously taught words and skills.

## Home Learning

Home learning tasks will continue to follow the same structure as before:

- **Spellings** - 10 spellings will be sent home on a Thursday to learn for a test on a Tuesday.
- **MathShed** - weekly tasks will be set on Thursdays to be completed by Tuesday with the aim of keeping the children's times table recall sharp and accurate.
- **Additional Tasks** - this task may be maths, writing or SPAG related and will focus on learning in class
- **Optional Research Task** - there is always the option to complete research on any aspect of the curriculum. This always shows great independence and demonstrates an excellent attitude to learning.

Please also continue to encourage the children to read where possible.