**Heathcoat Primary School**

**Reception Autumn Term Newsletter**

**September 2021**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Hello and a very big, warm welcome to our families new and old to Heathcoat Primary School. We are delighted to welcome all of the children to school to our reception classes.

During the first 4-6 weeks of school life we will be spending lots of time familiarising ourselves with class and school routines. It is a very busy time for the children as they explore the setting and get to show us the things they really love to play with. All staff will be playing and interacting with the children to ensure positive relationships are built, and to enable a successful first year at school.

Here are some of the themes that the children will follow in their first term at school.

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| **Autumn Term 2021** | | |
| **Subject** | **1st half term** | **2nd half term** |
| **Topic** | Weeks 1-2  **All about me**   * Families * Who lives in our house * People who are special to us * Pets * Hobbies and interests   Weeks 3-4  **Creature Features - Dinosaurs**  Weeks 5-7  **Autumn and Harvest**   * Seasons * Changes all around us * Food and healthy eating | Week 1-2  **Fireworks & Diwali**  Weeks 3-4  **Anti-Bullying and Road safety**  Weeks 5-7  **Christmas and Light and Dark** |
| **Personal, Social and Emotional Development** | **Being me in my world.**  A sense of belonging.  Recognising and managing feelings.  Following routines and understanding class rules.  Being responsible for our behaviour and belongings.  RE  **Being Special – Where do we belong?**  To share when things have happened in their lives that have made them feel special.  Making connections with personal experiences. | **Celebrating difference**  Understanding that we are all special and that we have similarities and differences.  Understanding how to have good interactions with each other and what to do in a tricky situation.  Developing friendships and being kind to each other.  RE  **Why is Christmas special for Christians?**  Talk about people special to them.  What makes their friends and family special?  How they celebrate Christmas.  The Christmas Story. |
| **Communication and Language** | Daily class read  Topic related vocabulary  Imaginative role play  Asking and answering questions  Listening and interacting with peers | Daily class read  Topic related vocabulary  Imaginative role play  Asking and answering questions  Listening and interacting with peers |
| **Physical Development** | Real PE - every Tuesday and Thursday  Weeks 1-3 (personal)  The Birthday Bike Surprise – Coordination & footwork.  Weeks 4-6 (personal)  Pirate Pranks – Static balance on one leg. | Real PE- every Tuesday and Thursday  Weeks 7-9 (social)  Journey to the Blue planet – Dynamic balance to agility. Jumping and landing.  Weeks 10-12 (Social)  Monkey business – Seated static balance |
| **Literacy** | Following the Read, Write Inc programme | Following the Read, Write Inc programme |
| **Mathematics** | **Getting to know you.**  Key times of the day, class routines and positional language.  **Just like me!**  Match and sort, compare amounts, compare size, mass and capacity and exploring pattern. | **It’s me 1,2,3!**  Representing, comparing and composition of 1,2 and 3.  Circles and triangles and positional language.  **Light and Dark**  Representing numbers to 5. 1 more and 1 less. Shapes with 4 sides and time. |
| **Understanding of the world** | **“A sense of place”**  Gathering information from maps, simple plans/street maps, photographs and field work.  Google maps pro.  Recognising features of their immediate and local environment. | **“A sense of place”**  Gathering information from maps, simple plans/street maps, photographs and field work.  Google maps pro.  Recognising features of their immediate and local environment. |
| **Expressive arts and design** | **Celebration music** (KaPow)  Exploring music from around the world through focusing on winter celebrations. Listening to music, experimenting with playing percussion instruments and moving to music.    Singing short songs from memory, adding simple dynamics. Using un-tuned instruments to play alongside and in response to different types of music. Listening to and commenting on the descriptive features of music. Responding expressively to music using your body. Responding to music through expressive and appropriate movement. | **Nativity** |
| **Dates for the Diary** | 13.09 - Roald Dahl Day  Half term: 25 – 29 October | 8.11 – Parents Eve  10.11 – Parents Eve  7.12 – Nativity dress rehearsal to school  8.12 – Nativity performances to parents AM and PM (Times TBC)  End of term: 17th December |

**Reading**

We will begin the Read, Write, Inc. programme once children are settled into school life. Until then, we strongly encourage you to read a story book to your child every day (or as often as you can).

If you aren’t a member already, the local library in town is free to join and is a great place to visit with your children so they can do research or borrow books to read at home.

**PE**: Our PE days are every Tuesday and Thursday. Children should come to school wearing their school PE kit on these days. This includes a white PE shirt or t-shirt in their house colour, plus their school jumper. They must wear sensible trainers. Earrings must be removed or covered with tape for safety.

**Outside learning**: Please remember that children have access to the EYFS outdoor area and will be going outside to learn on a daily basis, whatever the weather. They will need waterproof coats in school each day- as you know our English weather can be unpredictable!

We hope this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to email us if you require any further guidance.  We now have a year group email: reception@heathcoat.devon.sch.uk. This will be checked on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday. If you need to get an important message to us urgently, please contact the office on 01884 252445 or email them on [admin@heathcoat.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@heathcoat.devon.sch.uk)

We are looking forward to a really exciting term of learning.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Gunn, Miss Daniels and Mrs Bard (Reception Class Teachers)

Mrs Pickford (EYFS Team leader)