

## Newdigate Infant CofE school curriculum information for parents - Autumn term 2018

### Literacy, Communication and Language

During the Autumn term the children will be learning to recognise and write the letter graphemes a-z. At the end of the second half term the children will begin to learn some of the digraphs (2 letters that make one sound), e.g. sh. They will learn how to write their own name, starting with a capital letter for the initial letter and the subsequent letters lower case.

The children start with wordless books before reading books with words. We will be re-telling and re-enacting familiar stories, starting with Goldilocks and the Three Bears, whilst also looking at other stories, fiction and non-fiction books on dinosaurs, space and life in the past.

### Expressive Arts and Design

We will be exploring a range of equipment, applying/practising skills we have learnt such as how to: cut along a straight/curved line, join materials to create different effects, use paint brush/pastels/stencils. As part of our topic the children will get to use junk modelling, practising their imaginative skills, and even creating a full scale time travelling machine.

We will also be acting out traditions/festivals and stories related to different cultures. All children will have music lessons, to encourage them to become familiar with instruments, to repeat rhythms and to learn songs by heart.

### Understanding the World

As part of our Creative Curriculum, 'Time Travel' we are looking forward to inviting grandparents in, to talk about an artefact or photograph so that we can learn about the past. We will also be thinking about what advancements and changes might happen in the future.

In R.E. we will be investigating and reflecting on the Christian festivals of Harvest, Christmas and also the Jewish Sukkot and the Hindu festival of Diwali

For Computing the children will experiment in using an i-pad to take photographs, typing their name, click and dragging, and creating their own pictures.

### Mathematical Development

We will be enjoying developing our maths skills by providing practical opportunities both in the inside and outside classroom through playing maths games, shape hunts, building models, experimenting with capacity and weight. Some of the skills we will be focusing on include: recognising and ordering numbers 0-10 and then extending to 20, counting objects 1:1, recognising coins, looking at 2D shapes, naming and describing them (sides, corners), comparing length and weight using mathematical vocabulary.

### Reception's Creative Curriculum Autumn 2018 'Time Travel'



### The Creative Curriculum

We link as much of our learning as possible to our topic and the children are offered opportunities to explore their own ideas within this. The children will be taking part in a '**Stunning Start**' where they will be creating a full size time machine and as part of our '**Marvellous Middle**' we will be listening to Grandparents talking about one of their exciting memories from the past with an artefact or picture - it could be a photograph of their first television, or a photograph of a street party at the end of the war, a ration book, a toy from their childhood. What wonders we will learn!

For the '**fantastic finale**' we plan to create a time capsule to capture important features of life now, to be opened by future Newdigate children.

### Physical Education

In conjunction with Premier Sports the children will focus on Gym and Dance skills. We will also have regular, short physical breaks through our Jump Start Jonny' interactive dancing, challenges, chill outs and mindfulness sessions.

Every Wednesday Premier Sports run a weekly lunchtime 'All children active' session.

At the end of the Autumn term they will practise and perform a dance in the school Nativity play.

### MOLEs (Making Outdoor Learning Exciting sessions)

Our MOLEs learning will begin with the children working in the pond area in small and large groups to explore the pond habitats and the environment in and around the pond.



We will then take our MOLE sessions onto the forest area on the school field where the children will be accessing a 'Forest School' approach to their learning. Learning transferable skills and getting to know and love their environment. This term, as well as play based child-led learning, we will focus on the changing seasons and how this affects the environment, and how different animals native to Britain, prepare for the colder weather.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development We will use circle times, drama and songs to explore how to get on with other people, how to recognise our emotions and how to make-up with one another, if we fall out. This year we will be commemorating the WW1 centenary and are planning a special remembrance service as a reminder of the importance of peace in our lives. . <https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/remembrance/ww1-centenary/> We will be focusing on the theme '**Going for Gold**'; helping the children to set themselves achievable simple goals and feel a sense of pride and satisfaction when they reach them. They also learn to deal with the feelings of disappointment if they are not able to achieve them.

They will also be encouraged and praised for **challenging themselves** when working at an activity, for **persevering, sharing and taking turns**, and in general adding to the 'bucket of happiness' by following the Bee Rules. Please also use the terminology of our bee rules at home.

Our value this term is '**Love**', followed by '**Peace**' after half term. Please try to find the time to discuss these values with your child.

## General Information

### **NAME EVERYTHING!**

Please remember to name all items of school uniform. Also, please ensure that your child has a complete named PE kit, including jogging bottoms for the chillier days.

### **BOOK BAGS**

Please remember to bring in book bags every day which must include their reading book and reading record. Your child will soon receive their Home Learning book and this is given in a plastic wallet to ensure it does not get wet from their water bottle. Your child's homework will come home on a Friday and must be returned **no later** than the following Thursday, for marking. Again, in the plastic wallet provided. Also don't forget to send in a filled, named water bottle daily. Please could your child also have a pair of named wellington boots to be kept at school. Thank you for your support.

### **TOYS**

Toys from home are not allowed into school because they can easily be lost and damaged. If there is a special circumstance, for example a child is upset on coming into school, then please let us know. We then allow a small cuddly toy or blanket to come in – this comforter can then be kept in the child's book bag. Please discuss this with us first.

### **PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS**

There will be a Parent's Evening after half term – this will be an opportunity to discuss how your child has settled into their new class and also to discuss your child's progress. However, you are welcome to 'pop in' for a chat at any point; preferably after school as this will give us more time.

### **BEE RULES**

Please do reinforce the vocabulary of the Bee Rules at home. We've had lots of positive feedback from parents about the use of these rules.



 *be thoughtful*

 *be kind*

 *be honest*

 *be hard-working*

 *be respectful*

*'Bee' the best you can be!*

