

Panda Class

September 2019

Welcome back to a new school year! We hope you all had a wonderful summer holiday.

The children are settling into the new class routines and getting used to all the changes. We are looking forward to the Year R children starting next week. This year, we are going to be one class (Panda Class) but for some of the time we will work in two distinct groups- Red Pandas and Giant Pandas. Your child is in Giant Pandas.



Our learning this term will be mainly about: Pandas and then Ourselves

Literacy—Writing:

We will continue to teach the majority of our literacy through the class projects of Pandas and Ourselves.

We will be looking at a range of fiction and non-fiction texts linked to our project and we will be using this as starting point for our writing.

Over the next term in our writing we will be concentrating on:

- Reading and discussing stories. We will be reading and retelling stories about pandas.
- Recount writing. We will be talking and writing about our school holidays.
- Sequencing. We will be sequencing the life cycle of a panda and of a human.
- Writing stories. We will be looking at stories about pandas. We will use actions and pictures to help us learn the text before we write, and then change, the stories.
- Information texts. We will collect information and make fact cards about pandas.
- Labelling. We will be drawing and labelling animals, including humans.

Integrated Learning:

For the first few weeks of his term we will be learning all about Pandas. We will then learn all about Ourselves. Our focus will be geography and science but our topic learning will include lots of different subjects. Here are some of the things that we will be learning and doing:

- Locating China and looking at the flag.
- Naming and locating the seven continents.
- Learning about pandas and their life cycles and habitats.
- Making collage pictures and model pandas.
- Looking at how humans grow and change.
- Learning about healthy eating, exercise and keeping clean.



In RE, we will be listening to and retelling stories from the Bible. We will be learning about their special meanings.

English—Reading:

In daily Sounds-Write sessions some children will be:

- Learning to segment and blend sounds in 5 and 6 sound words.
- Learning to read and spell multi-syllable words
- Some children will be working within the Extended Code. This is the part of Sounds Write which addresses the more complex spellings of different sounds.

If your child is bringing home spellings, please can you help them to learn how to spell the words before the following Friday when they are tested.

PE

This term we will be doing dance in our PE sessions. Just a reminder... please can you ensure children always have full PE kit in school. They need their green t-shirt and shorts. We are happy for your child to have plimsolls or trainers, they do not need both.

Reading at Home

The children have already brought home reading books. It would be great if you could aim to hear your child read at least 3 times a week. We really value your comments about how your child reads at home so please could you write the date and a brief comment, in the reading record book, each time you read with your child. To enable us to keep all our reading records in one place, we do not write comments in the reading record book. Please rest assured that your child will be reading in school *every* day. This could be during daily Guided Reading and writing sessions, Sounds-Write teaching or reading individually with an adult.

Numeracy

This term, in Mental Maths we will be working on:

- Number recognition
- Quick recall of number facts, such as bonds to 10 and 20
- Counting in 1s, 2s, 5s and 10s
- Mental addition and subtraction.
- Ordering numbers.

During Numeracy lessons we will be learning :

- About place value
- To count and order numbers
- To add and subtract
- About 2D and 3D shapes

Science:

This term in Science we will be looking at humans and other animals.

We will be learning:

- About the life cycle of a panda and human
- Seasonal changes
- Healthy food, exercise and hygiene.



Diary dates:

Mon 9th Sept- YR children start
Weds 11th Sept- Dance starts
Mon 23rd Sept- Meet The Teacher evening (3pm-5pm)
Mon 14th Oct- Online Safety Day
Fri 18th Oct- End of Term 1
Monday 28th Oct—Start of Term2