

# William Westley C of E Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr Andrew Westcott  
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Lisa Perry

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Dear Parents,

Happy New Year. We hope that you have had a lovely Christmas and a restful break. We are looking forward to a busy and interesting term and thank you for your continued support.

In **Maths** the children will be looking at addition and subtraction facts, including learning and consolidating their number bonds to 10 and then 20. They will be looking at place value and numbers up to 50 and at multiples of 2, 5 and 10. We will continue practising counting to and across 100, forwards and backwards, and learn to write the numbers to 20 in numerals and in words. Our measures topics will include length, height, weight and volume. We also have 2 maths targets to work on, firstly forming and orientating numbers 0-9 correctly and secondly knowing number bonds within 10 confidently e.g.  $2+3 = 5$ ,  $1+4 = 5$  .... $1+9 = 10$  etc

In **English** we will be listening to some fantastic fiction and non-fiction books linked to our Geography topic 'Hot and Cold Places', starting with Meerkat Mail by Emily Gravatt. We will use this story to look at letter writing and to write our own postcards from Sunny from different locations. We will also be sending a picture of Sunny home with the children so that he can have some adventures with them. We will make a google classroom assignment so that you can upload photos of your child and Sunny in a location of their choice – garden, park or further afield! We will then look at Rainbow Bear by Michael Morpurgo and Ice Bear by Nicola Davies and use these to compare fiction/non-fiction books and to write simple book reviews and Polar bear facts. Our themes after half-term are instruction writing and a fantasy fiction unit focusing on Dragons. We will begin with instruction writing, how to wash our hands, make a hat and how to trap a dragon! We will then look at writing our own dragon stories based on the picture book by M P Robertson, The Egg. Our main emphasis will be on identifying and writing sentences, using full stops and capital letters consistently, and

on correct letter formation and joined handwriting. The children will start to learn spellings each week based on the high frequency words they need to know and these will be practised each day in class and then a copy will come home each Friday in their reading record. These can then be practised each day at home the following week. If completed this will earn them a merit each week. They will also read regularly both in guided reading groups and individually and if they have read 3 or more times in a week at home, that will also earn them a weekly merit. We will check on this during guided reading sessions so if your child completes any type of reading activity at home (reading game, reading book, practising digraphs, listening to a story etc.) could you sign in the diary (a comment is nice but not essential if time is a factor!).

In **Science** the children will be studying materials and their uses, including looking at magnets and what makes an object waterproof. In the second half of term they will have opportunities to look at the season of Spring and how the seasons change and we will look at weather and create a weather diary linked to our Geography topic.

**Geography** will be our main topic this half-term and the focus will be looking at weather and hot and cold places in the world, particularly Africa and the poles.

Our **History** topic after half-term focuses on Toys and how they have changed. We will also look at the history of teddy bears, cars and dolls. At the end of this unit we will create a toy museum in our classroom and so will ask the children to bring in a toy, preferably an old toy to help to create this.

**Art** after half-term will be based around dragons. We will look at how different artists and cultures have portrayed dragons and then use printing and clay techniques to create our own. In **Design Technology** this half-term we will be creating pictures with moving parts using levers and pivots and will link this to our Geography topic.

In **Computing** we will look at simple algorithms and simple programming ideas will be introduced using Beebots.

In **RE** we will be looking investigating a question each half term : What is the Good news Jesus brings? and What does it mean to belong to the Jewish Faith? In **PSHE** we will focus on people who help us and how to stay safe, particularly road safety. **P.E.** will take place on Tuesdays and alternate Thursdays and Fridays this term. Tuesday's focus will be dance and gymnastics and on Friday the children will be taking part in team game activities. In **Music** we are finding the beat (pulse) in music through introduction to a wide range of musical styles. The children will listen, sing, compose and perform over the course of the term.

Finally, our class assembly will take place on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February via Zoom. We hope you can join us!

Thank you again for your support this year and please do not hesitate to contact us about any concerns you have regarding your child.  
Best wishes, once again, for the coming year.

Anna Shepherd and Kate Webster