



## Dragonflies Newsletter – Autumn Term 2021

Dear Parents/carers,

Welcome to the Autumn Term. I hope that you have all enjoyed a well-deserved break and are ready to embark on a new school year. I am looking forward to getting to know all the children and embarking on our learning journey together in Dragonflies class.

As we are a new class, made up of year 2 and 3 children, our curriculum outline contains elements of both the Key Stage 1 and lower Key Stage 2 curriculum – we will continue to modify and tailor subject matter so that it is aligned with the needs and interests of the children in our class.

This term, our main topic will be **Stone Age to the Iron Age!** This topic provides lots of opportunities to enjoy fun enrichment activities throughout the term. One of which is a Stone Age experience day, where a teaching company will come in and the children can dress up and embrace life in the Stone Age (start planning those wow outfits now!) Mrs Bailey and I are also looking into a visit to Saffron Walden museum to look at their prehistoric and fossil collection. This will tie in with our Science topics of materials and rocks, soils and fossils.

**For the first term, on a Tuesday morning, the Year 3 children in our class will go swimming with the Frogs class, and the Year 2 children will have a PE session in school.** Later in the year, the reverse will take place. **Our other PE session will be on a Monday afternoon** - in this session we will be altogether. **On days when they have PE, children should come into school in their PE kit.**

Every Monday, the class will be taught by a combination of Mrs Dixon and Mr Hawley. There will be a copy of the class timetable in the back of the reading book to help remind of times that kit is needed.

### Homework:

**The homework grid** includes a variety of tasks based on our topic and the children are able to choose which ones they would like to complete (the amount they choose to do is up to you). The children will be given a homework book to complete the tasks in and can share with the class. We will share, celebrate and give feedback to children on the week commencing 18<sup>th</sup> October (please do not bring it in before then).

It is important that children are reading every evening at home (for about 15 minutes) and should be logged in their reading record. This does not need to be reading to you every night and if your child is a confident reader you may sign to say they have read by themselves. The reading records will be checked every Friday and we would expect to see a minimum of 4 adult signatures across the week. There is an incentive of an extra 10 minutes play time for this. Please include any relevant comments if necessary, that we will read.

**Please ensure their reading record and book is in school every day.** Spellings will still be completed throughout the week, although you may notice that word lists do not always come home this year to learn as we are looking at a new way of teaching these in school. It is really important that children are reinforcing their times tables fluency at home. There will be more information regarding this sent home throughout the year.

Children may also continue to bring in their own pencil case, however please ensure these are a suitable size for the classroom and they only need a pencil, rubber, sharpener, ruler and colouring pencils. These can easily escalate and become a distraction.

If you have any questions or concerns, I will be in the playground everyday after school to help. Alternatively, please contact the office if you would like to arrange a meeting.

Kindest Regards,  
Mr Waite

## Autumn Term 2021

<i>Topic</i>	<i>Stone Age to Iron Age</i>
English	Fantasy narrative Poetry Explanation writing Traditional stories <u>Texts:</u> Stig of the Dump The Abominables
Maths	Place Value Addition and Subtraction Money
Science	Materials, (some Rocks, soils and fossils) Living things and their habitats Plants
Geography	Stone Age Essex
RE	Christianity: Churches and introducing Jesus, Churches and symbols, Christian rites of passage
Computing	Computing Systems and Networks Data and information
Art	Barbara Hempworth: Clay Sculptures/ Chalk Cave Paintings
PSHE	Rules, Rights and Responsibilities, Feelings and emotions, Growth mindset, Me and my relationships, Valuing difference
PE	Swimming and Hockey
French	Greetings, body parts and numbers
Music	Let your spirit fly