



Fellowship † Love † Justice



# Appleshaw St Peter's CE Primary School

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[www.appleshawschool.com](http://www.appleshawschool.com)

Headteacher: Mr Ian Hickman

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2019

## Oak Class Curriculum for autumn term 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the new academic year. The children have begun to settle into new routines very well and are excited to see each other. I am writing with regards to the curriculum I have planned for your child this term.

### **Topic work**

Topic learning will encompass aspects of history, geography and science. Our first topic is 'Light and the eyes'. Our main topic for the term is the Mayans which is an ancient civilization from Central America. Alongside all of this will be the discrete teaching of English, maths, spelling, PE, computing, French and music which will be planned and taught by myself or a specialist colleague. Our novel for the first half of term is The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaiman. In the second half of term we will be listening to the BBC schools radio play version of A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens, following it using a playscript and using it as a basis for reading comprehension and writing.

### **Reading**

Your child should have their own personal reading log that is brought home daily. Reading forms part of the homework for this class and your child should record what they have read in their log. It is important that quiet time is set aside for your child to read their chosen book. In Oak Class, this will be a book of their choice from home or the library. At this age, your child's comprehension skills are more significant to their progress than their ability to read the words. They need time to engage with what they are reading as the texts are increasingly more complex. It would be helpful to support your child through encouraging them to dedicate a decent amount of time to read and become engrossed in their book. Also, to ask them about what they have read, expect them to respond in detail and encourage them to find out the meaning of new words. I have planned the teaching of reading skills alongside topic work. The children will be retrieving information from non-fiction texts to support their learning in Science and History. I will also be focussing on author intent, inference skills and justifying answers through referring to evidence in the text.

### **Homework**

Homework is designed as an opportunity for your child to consolidate what they have been taught in school on an independent basis. Ms Britten and I have already assessed the children individually in spelling and have set up personal word lists to cater for their different needs. Spelling rules are taught in class and will need to be reinforced at home through given exercises or the use of Spellzone on the computer. The school has purchased this for the children in order to make spelling practise more fun. I will be setting the homework on a Monday and collecting it on a Friday to allow the children to be free at the weekend. Mathematics will continue to form part of the Maths homework as well as Times Tables Rockstars which I monitor frequently to ensure that your child has participated. I expect your child to be able to complete their homework independently so you do not need to provide support, just encourage them to complete it





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daily. On occasion there may be a project type homework which may provide an opportunity for you to work together with your child.

## **Organisation and responsibilities**

In Oak Class, children are expected to be fully independent in managing their own belongings. This includes bringing their full PE kit, completing homework independently and handing it in on time. This is good preparation for secondary school as well as basic life skills. I would also expect them to bring their water bottle to school and ensure that it is full every day. If your child wears earrings they should be able to remove them or tape them for PE sessions. We will endeavour to do PE lessons outdoors throughout the year, so your child will need warm clothing for the colder months.

During the course of the term, your child may volunteer or be asked to take on board some responsibilities such as team captain, digital leader, green ambassador, playleader, etc. As the oldest children in the school, they are more than capable of leading others and providing them with excellent role models.

## **Contact**

Before registration it is very busy with preparations for lessons and supervision of the children so I would appreciate any communication to be done through the school office who will, of course, arrange supervision for the children should the matter be urgent. Otherwise, I am usually available at the end of each day for a quick informal chat or if a more formal discussion is needed then an appointment can be made through the school office.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Dabill

