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26th February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly I just wanted to say thank you for supporting your child with their learning over the past 6 weeks. It has not been ideal and we appreciate how difficult it has been both for children in school and those learning at home. We have missed having all the children in school and look forward to welcoming them back on the 8th March.

We are following a slightly different structure on the week commencing 8th March, in recognition of school re-opening and also the fact that it is STEM week, which is always an important part of the school year. In addition to completing a variety of STEM activities across the school, the focus for the first week back is going be re-connecting as a school community, specifically with our classes, our teachers and friends. We will be engaging in a range of activities to support ‘Promoting Connectedness’. This will enable children who are returning to school, and those whose classmates are returning, to feel connected as a class again.  It will allow them to explore the positives of all coming back together and the opportunity to discuss any worries they may have. Our usual timetabled lessons, centred around our termly topic, will resume after this week, but we will continue to provide opportunities for the children to reflect on their feelings about what they have experienced during lockdown.

I have outlined below the topic plans for the bulk of this coming term. This will enable you to see what the children will be learning at school and at home.

Our topic for this term is **Happily Ever After**.

In English, our focus text for this term is Jack and the Bean Stalk, our approach will be through talk for writing whereby the children reflect on their previous learning to imitate, innovate and finally invent their own story.

In Maths, we will be continuing with our Power Maths books. During the remainder of lockdown, we will provide daily teacher-led videos that run alongside the lessons in the workbook. Please remember not to move on ahead from the teacher instructed pages. The areas we will focus on this term are length and height and weight and volume. Please remember to write the short date at the top of the page on the day you complete the lesson. You should spend approximately 20 minutes to complete the work book lessons. The expectation is that some lessons you may complete all pages and others you may not, depending on the difficulty of the concept. We will upload the answers for each section to Seesaw so that you or your child can self-mark answers. I will be adding a short evaluation for you to complete at the end of each week so that you can provide feedback as to how your child got on that week.

In Science, we will be learning about plants we will be identifying plants and describing the basic structure of common plants including trees. This will involve growing our own beans and learning about the optimum conditions required to enable our bean to grow. In Art we are going to look at sculpture, photography and paintings by the following artists; David Hockney, Andy Goldsworthy and Roy Lichenstein. We are going to reflect on these artists when producing our own artwork.

In RE our focus is going to be Easter, we will be learning about this important festival in the annual calendar and why it is important to Christians.

We really hope this helps with giving you an overview of what will be happening this term. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us, either through the School Office or on Seesaw.

Wishing you all well. Keep safe.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Bishop, Mrs Adams

Year 1 Class Teachers.