



*'Learning at its heart'*

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## Kingfisher Class – Learning Overview for Parents – Autumn 2021

Monday 1st November 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to Kingfisher class! We hope that you have had a restful half term break. This term, our topic will be 'Mediterranean Holiday'. The children will learn about the geography of Europe and the Mediterranean through our work in art, geography and English. As you will have read in our previous letter, we will start our new topic with a holiday dress up day tomorrow, and we are looking forward to sampling Mediterranean foods and carrying out some holiday-themed maths and writing activities. Please do not forget to come in holiday clothes (as warm as possible!)

### Our School Week

Your child's teachers for this term will continue to be Mrs Darby and Mr Riley, assisted by Miss Haines. Mr Riley will continue to teach the class on Mondays and Fridays. Mrs Darby will teach the class on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Miss Yarnold will continue to work with Kingfisher class until Christmas. On Thursday mornings, the children will continue to have a PE session with a sports coach. Please make sure your child has their full kit with them, including a spare pair of socks for girls if they are wearing tights. These sessions will recommence in the first week of term.

### Forest School

Forest School will continue on a Friday afternoon. Please ensure your child has their forest school kit in school.

### Reading Books

Reading books will continue to be changed every Tuesday and Friday. Please could you support us by reading with your child as often as possible, ideally daily. Please sign your child's home reading record each time your child reads at home, adding the page number so that we know where to pick up from when your child is reading in school. Please talk to your child about what they have read so they can show their understanding of the text. In school, we will teach the strategies that enable your child to read for meaning but the more your child practises these skills out of school, the more confident they will become. This term we will continue to develop fluency (speedy word reading). The best way to achieve this is by reading and rereading books, so if your child has finished their book and has not had it changed, please take the opportunity to listen to them reread it.





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### **Homework**

This term, the children will have spellings and maths facts to learn each week, and these will be tested every Monday, starting from next Monday 8th November. Spellings and maths tests will be recorded in books which will be sent home every Monday, so that you can track your child's results each week, and practise any that your child got wrong. Individual maths targets for the maths tests were given out at parents evening in the form of a poster. Please help your child learn the facts by heart and as quickly as possible.

In addition to this, 'pick and mix' homework will be issued at the end of the first week of term.

### **Water bottles**

We encourage the children to drink water often in class. Please send your child to school with a full water bottle each day. It is important that water bottles are filled before the children come to school, so that we have plenty of time for our morning tasks. The children are welcome to refill their bottles if they finish them before home time. Please ensure your child takes their water bottle home at the end of each day to be washed, and do not send your child in with any fruit squash - on the one hand, when spilt, it can cause damage to children's books but there is also evidence that drinking squash from water bottles can cause damage to developing teeth and gums.

As ever, we very much appreciate your support as we work together to develop your child's learning but if you have any concerns at any time, please do not hesitate to contact us. Under current conditions, face to face contact between parents and teachers is very limited so if you need to get in touch, please use your child's reading record or by emailing or telephoning school.

We look forward to another exciting term ahead in the run up to Christmas.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Darby and Mr Riley

