

Dear Parents/Carers of Kestrel Class,

Welcome to the new school year! We hope you all had a great break, and we're very happy to welcome you and your child into their new class. Our overall topic for the first half term is: 'Fighting Fit!'. Many aspects of the curriculum will be linked to this topic.

### English

**Writing:** The class will have a go at rewriting familiar narratives as well as creating their own. They will learn how to use a range of adjectives to add detail to their writing, and will be encouraged to expand their sentences using appropriate conjunctions. We will also be learning how to ask relevant questions to support us in fact-finding when creating a report about an animal (linked to our Science learning).

**Reading/Phonics:** The children will continue working through Phases 2-5 in Phonics and apply their decoding skills when reading a range of texts during group and whole-class reading sessions. We will be working on developing their comprehension skills through answering questions on what they have read and using evidence from the text to support their answers.

### Maths

We will be focussing on building our understanding of number and place value. We will be using a range of resources, including number lines, hundred squares, Dienes, etc in order to develop our addition and subtraction skills.

### Science

Our topic this term is 'Animals including Humans'. We will build on our existing knowledge of animal classification based on different criteria, such as diet, animal group, whether they have a skeleton, etc. We will find out about and describe the basic needs of animals, including humans, for survival and describe the importance for humans of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food, and hygiene.

### Art

The children will continue to develop their drawing and painting skills, by using a range of tools and media, taking inspiration from the world around them.

### Geography

We will learn to name and locate the 5 oceans and 7 continents of the world. We will also explore the UK and its surrounding seas, and compare and contrast our local area with other parts of the country.

### PSHME

The children will be focusing on understanding themselves by taking care of their mental and physical wellbeing.

### RE

We will be exploring why the teachings of Jesus are important to Christians through sharing stories such as 'The Lost Son' and 'The Good Samaritan'.

### ICT

We will be learning how to use Computer Systems and Networks safely, through logging in to various learning platforms, e.g. Bug Club and Sumdog.

### DT

Following on from our Science topic focusing on healthy living, the children will be designing and making their own fruit smoothies.

### P.E.

This term we will be learning netball skills through basic ball games. The children will work on the coordination and control of their bodies and the equipment used. Furthermore, they will learn different throwing techniques, as well as passing with accuracy.

Please read with your child every day at home (10-15 minutes) and where possible from a variety of texts.

Please ensure that their reading response books and book bags come to school in book bags **every day**.

**Kestrel PE days:** Tuesday (outdoor) and Wednesday (indoor)  
Please come to school wearing appropriate clothing for PE (trainers, leggings/shorts/tracksuit bottoms, t-shirt, sweatshirt or hoodie).

### **Year 2 Home learning:**

Each week, Year 2 work will be posted onto Itslearning. Maths and English tasks will change weekly, and in addition, there will be a half termly project, due in the last week of the half term.

### **Me Books**

Inside your child's Me Books there will be a grid with nine tasks. Children will complete seven (one for each week of the half term), or all nine tasks. Me Books should be kept in reading bags and brought into school each day, as we will be sharing them from time to time throughout the half term.

### **Other Class Information:**

This term, we are looking forward to welcoming parents and carers in for our 'Big Read' session, where you will be invited to share stories with our Year 2 children. We will also be visiting Lewisham market to shop for ingredients for our fruit smoothies, which we will make in DT.

