

## Spring Term: Blue Planet



### Happy New Year!

The class team is Miss Atkinson (Class Teacher), Mr Ray (LSA) and Mrs Ray (HTLA) who will also be teaching on a Wednesday. We are very much looking forward to 2024.

As always, we are here to support you and your child as much as possible. If you need to speak to any of us, the end of the day is easiest on most days for a brief discussion –or if you prefer, please arrange for an appointment for a longer consultation either by emailing the school office. We welcome parents' involvement as much as possible, but please be patient with us during these times where staff shortages can occur.

### This term....

In our topic, 'Blue Planet' your child will learn the continents and oceans of the Earth along with the equator, and northern and southern hemispheres, and rivers. Our science topic is Plants particularly each part of the plant its function, leading to seed formation and seed dispersal. Next half term, we look at our topic Animals including Humans, where we will look at the skeleton and its roles as well as how to keep ourselves healthy through diet. In computing we dive into the world of animation and create our own stop-frame videos, whereas in art we focus on printing. Creating our own version of 'The Wave'.

PE will take place on Wednesday and Friday afternoons, and we ask that children bring in their PE clothes to change into during the day. Their PE kits should include: their team-coloured T-shirt, black tracksuit trousers or shorts, and trainers. Please also ensure children have water bottles, that their hair is tied back and earrings are taken out (if necessary).

## Home Learning

Children's reading skills are coming along very quickly now and they will be reading a wide range of books. PLEASE check that children understand what they are reading as they encounter a new vocabulary bank that they may well not totally understand. It is not part of school policy that teachers provide homework. I know parents are eager for their children to be sent home with additional work, however this will not always be the case. Homework will be handed out as and when the team feel is necessary. The most valuable work your children can do at home is reading and timetables- these are the areas our team feel many children need more practise in.

## Home Learning Ideas

- Help someone at home make dinner for your family – talk about the food groups and what makes it healthy.
- Check the labelling on different drinks – which is the healthiest and why?
- Research an ocean and the creatures that live there. Create a PowerPoint about what you found.
- Grow some vegetables.
- Create an underwater animal model using recycled plastic materials.
- Make a model that shows the journey of a river.
- Create a code on scratch that links to our topic of plants (for example, could you make an insect move towards a plant?).