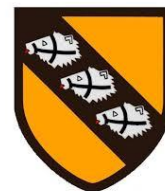


PHOENIX CLASS NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 1 2021-22



Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome back to school after the summer break – and into Phoenix class! Whether you are new to the class, or you have been in Phoenix before, I wish you the best in settling in. We have had work done to the ceiling over the holiday and needed to get everything out on the last days of term. I have had a chance to update and refresh the classroom for your child/ren's return and hope it provides a stimulating and meaningful learning environment. We welcome back Mrs Pymm to Phoenix, who will be our regular teaching assistant in the class this year.

Topics

Our term's school value is Friendship, and this will be the focus throughout the collective worships and some of our PSHE lessons. This is a great value to begin the school year with. It enables children to identify what being a good friend looks like, and how to make and keep friends. It will promote the understanding of inclusion and others' differences of opinion. There will be an emphasis on teamwork and solving problems in our PSHE sessions. The theme of the term is Space. This will be an exciting topic to explore across a range of subjects in class. Together we will be reading *The Iron Man*. Using a whole-class set of reading books, we will be tackling a range of comprehension activities and tasks. In Science lessons, the children will be learning about the solar system and about the movement of the Earth and Moon. We will find out about important and influential figures in space travel and look at the work of Space and fantasy artists. We will learn about the constellation of Phoenix and complete writing and artistic challenges.

In computing, the children will have their regular internet safety input which will include how to protect themselves online, understanding the meaning of computing vocabulary such as 'phishing, plagiarism, malware and viruses' to name just a few. We will be learning how to research effectively and what makes a good source of information. The children will be learning about healthy screen time so that they can take more informed ownership of the way that they choose to use their free time. This will enable them to be more educated about how to find a balance between being active and carrying out digital activities.

The timeless 70's ABBA songs will be the focus for our music lessons this term. The children will learn about the history of the group, listen and appraise some of their music including *Mamma Mia*, *Dancing Queen* and *Waterloo*. We will be learning to sing, play, improvise and compose to the well-known song *Mamma Mia*.

Homework and reading

Please continue to read with **and to** your children. This time is so beneficial. Any reading material and text types is good. Chat about the content of the text and try to think of questions related to the children's understanding. Please also make sure reading records are signed each time. We aim for at least four times a week – and they will then have a chance to win a little prize in our weekly class draw. Thanks.

Regular homework is set at the end of the week. This involves tasks from an English textbook and online Maths activities. Please support your child in achieving the set homework each week and let us know if there are any issues around homework completion. Please regularly allow your child time to complete reading comprehension activities on Bug Club – at least one a week at home would be great.

PE & Water bottles

Phoenix will continue to have PE on Mondays and Thursday. As before, send your child into school wearing their PE kit on those days. Please ensure your child has the appropriate clothing and footwear to allow them to fully take part. Please make sure your child always has a named water bottle.

We may see some sunny weather over the term, so please apply sun cream before school and ensure your child has a sun hat.

Of course, if you have any concerns or issues about your child's schooling, or anything else that you wish to discuss, please do not hesitate to contact us via Mrs Howe in the school office on admin@langleyfitzurse.wilts.sch.uk or directly to the phoenix email address phoenix@langleyfitzurse.wilts.sch.uk.

Mr Osler and Mrs Mungham