

## Sharks Summer Term Newsletter

April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the Summer Term in Sharks! We hope that everyone has had a relaxing Easter holiday and that the children are ready for another busy term of growing and learning together!

We continue to work within our Sharks 'bubble,' following the social distancing procedures that have been in place since September. If children wish to bring in anti-bac gel to supplement our regular hand

washing, they can keep this in their bag or drawer. Thank you for continuing to adhere to our social distancing measures at drop-off and pick-up times.

### Topic

This term we are celebrating difference with our new topic on Diversity. Within this topic, we will be learning about early Islamic civilisation and the history and geography of the city of Baghdad; this will also inspire our art work, learning about patterns and styles of Islamic art. In our 'Music and Me' music lessons we will learn about the achievements of musicians from different backgrounds and will compose music to express ourselves, while our PE lessons will give us the opportunity to share our diverse range of talents in areas including rounders, orienteering and athletics.



In PHSE, we have begun a series of Mental Health sessions led by visitors from the Activators team and we are also following the Project 10 programme to learn about our rights, responsibilities and how to stay safe from crime (please see separate letter with further information about this programme). This links to our RE unit, 'Does belief in Akhirah (life after death) help Muslims lead good lives?' where we have started considering what we mean by 'right' and 'wrong' and the consequences of our actions.

### Communications

If you have individual concerns about your child or any other queries, please direct these to the office who will forward on your messages so that communication remains open through email, phone conversations and virtual meetings on Teams. Keep an eye on the weekly school newsletters to find out what we have been learning in class each week.



## Catch-up Maths and English

We will continue to hold daily 'catch-up' Maths and English sessions in addition to our usual Maths and English lessons. Initially, these will be focused on reading and comprehension skills and on rapid recall of number facts and mental maths skills. We will be using online programmes like TT Rockstars and First News I-Hub to support these sessions; children can also continue to access these at home to further develop their learning.



## Home Learning

Next week, we will be sending home a set of projects for children to choose their home learning activities. As in previous terms, these will cover a range of curriculum areas related to our topic and children are encouraged to interpret and present their projects in any way they wish. We are asking children to choose three projects (sent in via Teams or emailed to [homelearning@fritwell.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:homelearning@fritwell.oxon.sch.uk)) to be shared in class in the week commencing 5/7/21. Children will then receive written feedback on their projects.

Children should also be practising **reading and spelling daily at home**. Spellings can be practised on Spelling Shed or on a weekly LSCWC spelling sheet; home reading (whether this is independent or to an adult) should be recorded in their Reading Record a minimum of three times a week. Spelling Shed/spelling sheets and Reading Records are checked on a Friday, with Family Group Points awarded to recognise regular practise.



## PE

PE is timetabled for **Tuesday** and **Friday** afternoons, however PE kit needs to be in school every day in case our sessions change. Please ensure that children have navy blue shorts, t-shirt and trainers and that all items are clearly named. PE kits will be sent home on a Friday so that the cloakrooms can be thoroughly cleaned.

## Water bottles and snacks

Children should remember to bring in their water bottle every day to keep well hydrated, especially as the weather gets warmer; bottles can be re-filled during the day in the classroom. We will continue to eat lunch at 12:45, and in the fine weather Year 6 have the special privilege of eating lunch on the benches outside. It is a good idea for children to bring in a snack for break time -this should be a healthy snack like a piece of fruit.

We are so pleased to be back at school and are already so impressed with the effort and engagement the children have shown in our first week back. We are looking forward to all the new learning opportunities and challenges ahead this term; we hope you are too!

Mrs Montgomery and Mrs Weaver