

# Heathfield Junior School Curriculum Bulletin

**Applegate Class – Willow**

**Spring 2023-2024**

Happy New Year! We hope you all had a restful holiday period! We begin another busy school term, which is packed with wonderful new learning opportunities across the school. We are looking forward to working with you and your children so below is a summary of our curriculum for the Spring term. **Please note** that if your child is attending their mainstream class for subjects, you will find their year group curriculum bulletin on our school website, as the topics being studied may be different.

## The Heathfield Way

"The Heathfield Way" underpins all that we do in school. We expect all members of the Heathfield community to:

- Learn and let others learn
- Respect all people and property
- Work hard and try their very best

When children follow, 'The Heathfield Way' they will be awarded house points, which are recorded in their reading diary.

## English

This term in English we will begin by studying the text 'Worries' to help us develop and use our emotional regulation skills to support and develop our writing. We will also be focussing on a non-fiction piece about wolves to develop our factual writing skills. In the second part of the term, we will be reading the Picture Book 'Zoo.' We will finish the Spring term by reading a range of poetry from different authors and creating our own unique poems.

## Maths

In maths we will be mastering a range of skills within the topics of: place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, measure, geometry and fractions. Please continue to work with your child on learning their times tables. This is extremely important as it supports their learning in a range of mathematical areas.



In order to help your children learn their times tables, the school remains a member of 'Times Table Rock Stars'. This is an online website where your children can practise their times tables through fun and interactive games.

Your child's login details are located at the front of the reading journal. We will be using this website in school but also ask that children login and practise at home as well.

## Reading Diary

Reading and books are a huge part of our life at Heathfield. Therefore, all children are expected to read aloud to an adult at home **every** day for 20 minutes. After they have read, the children need to record the title of the book and comment about what they have read in their reading diary. An adult from home should then sign next to the comment. Your child's teacher will then read your child's comment and sign the reading diary too.

We understand that sometimes children find it hard to write a comment about what they have read so here are some ideas about what they might write about:

- What has happened in the book so far?
- Who is their favourite character and why?
- Who is their least favourite character and why?
- What they predict is going to happen next?



## Science

**Upper Applegate** – This term we will be studying 'Let it shine (Light)' during Spring 1 then 'Electrifying (Electricity)' in Spring 2.

**Lower Applegate** – This term we will be studying Teeth and Eating (Animals, including humans) during Spring 1 then Power It Up! (Electricity) in Spring 2.

In both terms we will be improving our scientific knowledge of both topics and improve our investigative skills through a range of practical experiments and experiences. A knowledge organiser will be published so that you can see an outline of the knowledge and skills your child will be taught in these topics.

### **Therapies**

**Occupational Therapy** – OT will remain on a Tuesday and will include gross and fine motor sessions designed to improve our core strength, balance, coordination and improve our handwriting. We will also continue to develop our real life skills with cooking, creative and self-care style activities. Sessions will also be built in to manage and support our sensory needs. Laura Harrison will remain as our therapist.

**Speech and Language** – SAL will remain on a Wednesday and will include groups involving some aspects of social thinking and Lego therapy skills within Spring term. We will continue to work on our skills to engage our peers in conversation and continue our social mapping and identifying our emotions and how this affects us and the world around us. Chelsea Long will remain as our therapist.

### **Homework**

Homework is very important within school to help cement and embed our learning throughout the week and something we wish to continue progressing this year.

**Lower Applegate** – Spelling homework daily.

Comprehension will be set on a Friday to be returned on a Monday.

**Upper Applegate** – Spelling homework is set on a Thursday to be returned on the following Thursday.

Comprehension will be set on a Friday to be returned on a Monday.

**If your child is attending mainstream English and/or Maths lesson, the homework will be set by their teacher on the days specified in their year group bulletin.**

### **School Uniform Reminder**

Please ensure that your child wears the correct uniform to school. This includes wearing suitable shoes. Your child should also have full PE kit in school every day. This includes black shorts or jogging bottoms, their house T-shirt and trainers.

### **Important dates**

**Please also see your child's year group bulletin for key dates.**

- Monday 5<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February – Parents' Evening

### **How to contact us**

We are always happy to discuss any queries or concerns you may have.

If you need to make a general enquiry please contact the school office via telephone 020 8894 3525 or email: [willow@heathfield-inf.richmond.sch.uk](mailto:willow@heathfield-inf.richmond.sch.uk)

Mrs M - Provision Leader and Class Teacher