



Stoneraise School

# Class Beech Newsletter Autumn 2nd Half Term

## Dear Parents,

Welcome back, after a lovely autumn break, where I'm certain I saw the sun once or twice!

This term is going to be stuffed to capacity with our new topic of Artists, but also we have the Christmas Nativity performance, which is already written, song choices made (with a few word changes here and there), so all we need now are a few sprinkles of glitter, wings, camels, and we're ready for action!

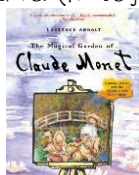
## Topic

We're studying the work of Vincent Van Gogh (and his missing ear), Claude Monet and Henri Matisse. It will be a paint filled term, so be prepared for green hands and blue finger nails!

We'll be looking on Google Earth at where Van Gogh lived and painted, and looking at his paintings under a microscope. We'll be recreating paintings using different materials and methods, and particularly studying his time in Arles with his friend, Paul Gauguin. There won't be much you won't know about these artists, so be prepared to have your ear talked off! ☺

## English

We have a range of books to look at this term, both fiction and non-fiction. The class will be finding out about Van Gogh in *Camille and the Sunflowers*, Matisse in *Henri's Scissors*, and Monet in *The Magical Garden of Monet*. We will continue to work on the mantra of writing a sentence that makes sense in Year 1. *Think it, Say it, Write it, Check it*. The children have made huge progress and we're very impressed with their fantastic attitude to learning! Year 2s will continue to work on using a variety of punctuation, vocabulary and subordinations and co-ordinations. (That's joining words in old fashioned money!)



## Reading

Accelerating Reading is proving to be a massive hit with Year 2, and they are happily competing to win a coveted prize of a certificate, book mark, wheelie bin pencil sharpener and more! Your child will take a test in our first week, to see if they need to change book levels. Year 1s will continue to read from the selected books at the level they are on. We review their levels regularly, and their levels change depending on their understanding as well as their ability to read the words. Please encourage your child to

read their books more than once, and question them on what the story is about, what happens next, what happened before etc. Reading comprehension is as important as reading fluently. Please try to read with your child at least three times a week and write your comments in the reading record book. Mrs Carrick and Mrs Lindsley will read with your child individually, once a week, and I will take Guided Reading groups.

## Phonics

Phonic sessions are now taking place each afternoon with Mrs Carrick and myself, from 1.00pm – 1.30pm.

Lexia work continues for Year 2, to login in please use your child's name and the password; school. Login cards are in the reading record books.

## Maths

We'll be looking at Money, Fractions of Shape, Fractions of Number, Statistics, Time, Multiplication and Division  
Mathletics homework will be sent home each week.

## Computing

The children are using cameras, iPad and microscopes to become expert photographers!

## PE

PE will take place on Tuesday and Friday. Please ensure your child has their full PE kit (including trainers). Carlisle United will be teaching gymnastics on a Friday.

## Music

Miss Marriot will teach recorders on Wednesday afternoons, and working on our Nativity songs. Be prepared to hear the new versions of George Michael's Faith, and The Proclaimers, 500 miles!



## Science

We'll be looking at different materials this term, finding out how glass and plastic are made, and conducting experiments to find out about their properties.

## Art

We continue to use art within all areas of the curriculum, but we will be making our classroom into studio, reflecting the works of our chosen artists, using paint, photography and 3D techniques to recreate some famous works.

## RE

Mrs Ferguson will be teaching the story of the birth of Jesus.

Any concerns or questions, please pop in after school.  
Many thanks

Lynn Nixon, Sue Carrick and Sharon Lindsley



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