



# Anderson Class Newsletter Spring 2017

Happy New Year everyone!

We hope that you had a happy and peaceful Christmas and are looking forward to a fabulous 2017! We would like to thank all of you that gave us gifts at the end of term - they were very much appreciated!

Ms Woolgar and Mrs Blows

## Topic

Our new topic will be *Fascinating Forces*. Forces are pushing and pulling at everything in our Universe. Even as we sit in our classroom, the walls and the ceiling are pushing and pulling at each other, while gravity and friction hold us in our seats.

In Science, we'll be finding out: how a ball flies through the air; what friction is and how it helps us; how different objects fall; what gravity is and how it pulls on objects; how air resistance affects moving objects; how water pushes up on floating objects and why some objects float and others sink. We will also be exploring the technology of using natural forces as sources of energy and designing boats and aircraft.



## Uniform

We kindly ask that you check that your child is coming to school in the correct uniform, with regards to shoes, trousers, jewellery and make-up. Please remember that the school's PE kit consists of a plain white t-shirt and dark leggings or joggers. Thank you!

Children should also remember to take home their water bottles at the end of every day for washing.

## Homework

As the time for SATs rapidly draws near, the Year 6s will be working on developing 'test techniques'. We will cover some of this in lessons and some at study club on Thursday evenings (see separate letter).

Each child will also begin to receive SATs – style questions to work on at home. These need to be done neatly and carefully, in 'test' conditions. These will be sent home as the end of study club each Thursday and will be marked in school with the children on the following Thursday, so need to be handed in by Tuesday.

Both Years 5 and 6 will continue to get their usual homework of spellings once a week and alternate maths/topic on Fridays. In addition, we expect all children to be both reading and practising their times tables at home at least three times a week.

## English/RE

There will be strong English links to our topic through instruction and information writing in science. Our class reader will be the fantasy *The Heartstone Odyssey* which will explore various moral and ethical themes. You should already have received a letter with information about this project that the class is involved in. In English lessons we will further develop the use of higher order punctuation such as colons and semi-colons, as well as enhancing the children's vocabulary and grammar. Our RE is also being covered through the themes in this book.



## Maths

This term, we will continue to practise formal calculation methods alongside learning about fractions and percentages. These methods rely heavily on a sound knowledge of times tables. There will also be plenty of opportunities for problem-solving involving ratio and proportion, shapes and measure and data-handling.



## P.E.

P.E. this term will be on Mondays and Wednesdays. We are very fortunate to have the expertise of an FA coach for football on Wednesday afternoons.

## Terrific Scientific

As well as all the other exciting activities planned this year, Anderson Class will also be participating in the national science scheme *Terrific Scientific* organised by the BBC. This will involve the children exploring various aspects of science and contributing their results to national data alongside hundreds of other schools. You will be receiving separate letters with more information about each of the activities.