



**Newsletter for
Neville Class**
with Mrs Bartlett and Mrs Coverdale



Dearand Family,

We had lots of fun again last half term with exciting trips to the farm and to Tesco, which support our learning in the 'Let's get cooking' topic. As well as some very successful cooking activities at school, which I hope you enjoyed sharing at home!

It was great to see so many of you at our maths lesson, supporting both your children and our school. We have received some feedback from the questionnaires, which will help us to improve these events for the future, so if you haven't had chance to fill it in yet please do so as we value your thoughts.

As ever please feel free to come and see me with any questions.

Mrs Bartlett

What will we be learning?

Our school topic this half term will be "Power it up!"

In Neville Class we will be focusing on forces and magnetism, which means our topic will be driven by science. As ever we will be making many cross curricular links so many of our activities will link into different subjects. Some of the things we will be looking at are:

The science behind forces and magnetism, where we will think about making observations from experiential learning activities and setting up fair tests.

We will be using and making a compass which will link into our maths where we will talk about points of a compass and directional language. We will also have our focus on the 4 operations and continue with our Bronze, Silver and Gold awards for times table knowledge.

Non-fiction writing will be the main focus for literacy where we will make a class book on magnetism. We will also do some instructional writing linked to our DT project and write and recite some topical poems.

In DT we will be designing and making a magnetic game to put into practise our scientific knowledge.

And... lots more!

Homework and reading

Homework will continue to be set each Thursday and handed in the following Tuesday as this seems to be working well for most children.

I know home life can be very busy so I try to set homework that the children can manage independently in a short amount of time, if this isn't the case and there are any problems please come and chat to me.

I have had a few visits from parents about SMIRFs. SMIRFs are just a re-launch of the old KIRFs that the children did with their previous teacher. They are designed to support mental maths recall, so children do not have to write anything down in their homework books unless they want to. SMIRFs can be practised verbally, in the car or walking to school, or by playing games to keep it fun don't make it onerous!

Some of the wording can be confusing so please just ask if you need help! The idea is that the children work through the missions progressively, I would like to ask parents to sign the first box when you are happy that your child is starting to show an *instant* recognition of their SMIRF, then continue working at it until you feel they are *secure*, when you should sign the second box.

When we do our SMIRFs lesson I will then sign the third box or write some feedback in their book if I feel they need some more support with it. When a mission is complete the children receive a certificate for their accomplishments, which is presented by Mrs Stell in assembly.

I hope this clarifies any problems, if not pop in and see me.

PE lessons

James Lofthouse has now completed the Futsal training which was very popular with all of the children.

PE will now be on **Monday** and a Friday. This is to make the most of the Tuesday afternoon session that we have with Mrs Coverdale.

Mr Warriner will continue with our Friday session teaching tennis, joined by Damien Galloway, LTA coach. This will be our outdoor session and although we hope to see some warmer weather creeping in please ensure that children still have warm clothes in their PE kit.

REMEMBER!

Every day I need my 'home school record', my named PE kit and my water bottle!