



House martins Autumn Term



23.09.22

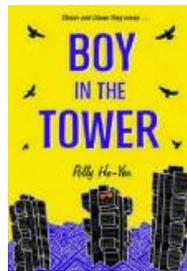
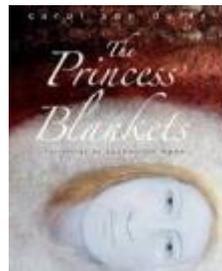


Dear All,

Welcome back to the autumn term. We are delighted to have Miss Young with us as our class learning support assistant, and to keep our specialist subject teaching staff - Mrs Hill, Mrs Elmslie and Mrs Pylotis. We are also happy to have Mrs Dinkele as a regular addition to the class team. Please find below an overview of our curriculum for the term, along with some information about class routines and expectations.

Curriculum

English: We will be writing for a range of audiences and purposes, inspired by exciting texts, starting with *The Grimm Tales* by Philip Pullman, followed by *Inside the Villains* (Clothilde Perrin), *The Princess Blankets* (Carol Ann Duffy) and *The Boy in the Tower* (Polly Ho-Yen). Grammar will be taught throughout the year. We will be working as a whole class in Guided Reading, with a wide variety of books and resources. Our first book *Clockwork*, also by Philip Pullman – is an unnerving fairy tale



set in Germany, which winds up and ticks relentlessly to the finish.

Maths: The term begins with Number and Place Value, which is a huge topic to cover. There will be a strong focus on reasoning and problem solving across all topics, along with the use of practical resources to support children when applying their knowledge to new learning and challenges. The secure recall of number and multiplication facts will aid children in all maths concepts.

Science: We begin the term looking at Evolution and Inheritance, followed by Animals including Humans and Materials and Changes. Our 'Big Questions' for the topics are: What is evolution and how do we know it happened? How are nutrients transported in the body, and how does the body change as we age? How are new substances made?

History: It felt appropriate given the magnitude of recent events to begin with a British study, looking at an aspect of British history since 1066. We are exploring the changing power of Monarchy through the lens of the life of Queen Elizabeth II, how she came to the throne and the monarchs before her from William the Conqueror to her father, King George VI. Incorporated into our history work is Design Technology, in the form of textiles.

Geography: This term we are studying the Alps. Children will learn how the mountains were formed, their location and physical geography (including climate and habitats) and the human geography of the region. We are also including some aspects of Design Technology, through modelling.

P.E. and Games: Outdoor sport this term is football and our indoor sessions will be using the large apparatus. We are currently taking advantage of being outside when the weather is good and are also preparing for some sports events in the calendar in the next few weeks.

Computing: Will begin, as always, with online safety and safeguarding. This topic is ongoing all year and initially we are looking at using the WWW and internet to search effectively.

R.E.: begins with Islam and the concept of Belief, before moving on to Christianity and the concept of Incarnation.

Art: Children will learn about Alexander Calder and his work – moving sculptures. They will study, design and make their own mobiles.

M.F.L. (Spanish): Rutina Diaria (daily routine) and Sentimientos (feelings).

Music: Body percussion and rhythmic layering and then composing atmospheric pieces (20th century composers).

Expectations

Kit: We may need to make changes to our timetabled lessons at short notice and therefore the children must have the correct sports kit in school from Monday to Friday. They need to have a complete change of clothes for sport sessions – including a suitable jumper and socks in addition to the usual top and shorts or trousers. As the weather changes, please ensure that children bring appropriate kit into school. We have limited spares and have been known to play sport in all weather. It is very important for comfort, safety and general pleasantness that children have a complete change of clothing for their sports sessions. They need to be able to change out of wet/dirty/sweaty clothing and shoes – and we hope that they do!

Reading: We hope that the children read daily, for a minimum of 15 minutes, either with or to an adult, or by themselves. This is so important for their confidence and ability to access and enjoy the curriculum. Please write in their Reading Journal – a short comment or signature weekly is ideal, but feel free to do more if you wish! They should bring this home at least once a week.

Spelling: Children will be given a set of spelling words to revise each week. New words will be given every Thursday, when they will have a weekly test. We are working from a programme called No Nonsense Spelling and from the Key Stage Two spelling words for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Homework: It is important that children gain the experience, discipline and responsibility to complete homework tasks before they go to secondary school. In House martins, we have the expectation that children will complete a weekly Maths and English task in addition to learning their spellings and daily reading. The tasks will reflect what the children have been learning in recent lessons and will be pitched so that children can work independently as much as possible. Maths and English homework will be given each Monday and will revise the previous week's learning.

Fridays: In the morning Mrs Hill is continuing to teach Art and R.E. and Mrs Dinkle Maths and English (including Guided Reading). The afternoon remains timetabled for Music and Spanish as last year, with Mrs Elmslie and Mrs Pylotis.

If you have any questions or concerns that you would like to discuss, please email me directly.

With best wishes,

Mrs McNee

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