



MIDHURST C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents

Firstly swimming starts Tuesday 17th May! Please make sure your child has their swimming kit on this day and every Tuesday after.

Well I have finally got back to normal and am ready to start planning and thinking about our new topic for this term. We have a very exciting term ahead and I am looking forward to having lots of fun with our new topic.

For our summer topic we are going to be exploring all types of play and playgrounds.

For history we are going to talk about old toys, playtime games and play equipment. Should you wish to talk to your child about games you played when you were younger or games their grandparents played this will support their understanding of how play was different a long time ago (no DS's or Wii's!).

In geography we will be visiting two local parks and comparing their features. We will be discussing similarities, differences, likes and dislikes of the playgrounds. For geography we will also be drawing maps to these parks from school. The visit to the local playgrounds will also link to our science lessons on pushing and pulling by talking about the forces we use to make them work. As well as using our maths skills to measure pieces of equipment and identify patterns and shape in the equipment.

I am hoping to walk to local playgrounds in Midhurst this **Thursday the 12th May**. If any parents are free to walk with us for whole afternoon from 1 o'clock please do let me know. I will also be planning another school trip for July. I am hoping to plan a trip to Alice Holt in Farnham for the children to experience their adventure playground. Details of this will follow before half term.

A big part of our literacy this term will be working on Fantasy stories. We will be exploring stories with fantasy settings such as space, underwater and magical lands. We are also going to think about fantasy characters we can have in stories such as fairies, dragons, trolls etc. To support their writing

this term we will be looking at extending their sentence writing. I am really pleased with the children's progress so far and this term will be focusing on using connectives to make their sentences longer for example using the words: and, so, because, if, while, but. Children might write a sentence "I played dolls with my sister", I am trying to encourage longer sentences "I played dolls with my sister **while** my mum was cooking tea". Or "Jack climbed up the beanstalk **because** he was so excited to see what was at the end". We also still need to continue our work on using full stops and capital letters in the right place when we are writing.

In Maths we will be covering number, calculation and shape and space. However we are also going to be specifically raising their attainment with their problem solving and reasoning skills. We will be encouraging the children to discuss what they have done with their mathematical problems. Children are going to be encouraged to verbalise how they solved calculations and use drawings to support their problem solving. For example I have 15p and the banana costs 25p. How much more money do I need? Show me how you solved this? Explain how you solved it?

Finally one last favour! At the moment the children are making excellent progress with their reading. However they still really need more and more opportunities to read with adults. Any parent, aunt, grandparent, neighbour who might be free on a Monday, Wednesday or Thursday afternoon to listen to readers please let me know. I would really appreciate the extra help.

Anyway I do hope that wasn't too much information to digest in one! Please do come and see with any queries,

Many thanks and kind regards

Mrs Springthorpe