

Poplar Class Update

Dear Parents and carers,

We are now well into the swing of the spring term. In this flyer you will find information about some of the topics we will be working on this term and ways in which you can support your child's learning at home. Home learning can take on many forms; it doesn't just mean extra work at home! Talking to your child about our topics and making links to what you see and do when out and about can really help - it's probably what you are already doing. If you have any questions about home learning please get in touch with me.

What we will do in school...

PSHE and Life Skills. We will be learning about Personal Hygiene next half term. We will be encouraging pupils to take a shower after swimming and brushing our teeth. We will go out in the community, building up our skills to go shopping and/or to visit a café.

English. We will be looking at a variety of short stories and non-fiction books about transport. We will be looking at how books are laid out and will annotate pictures with pecs symbols. We will develop our fine motor skills through sensory activities.

Maths. We have been counting so far this term and will move on to shape and then money. We will be creating shape pictures and will be looking at identifying shapes in our environment. We will use money in our community visits.

Knowledge of the World and Creativity
We are exploring the theme of transport. We will be printing in art. We will look at push and pull forces in science and floating and sinking. We will be making cards in DT and making vehicles from Junk materials.

ICT We will be using Purple Mash to use 2paint a picture to create art on the interactive whiteboard (IWB) or PC. We will be encouraging pupils to choose a song to watch on the IWB.

What you could do together at home...

Talk about hand washing and teeth brushing at home. Encourage your child to have a go at washing their hands, face, brush teeth as independently as possible. I will send a further letter about our community trips.

Share books with your child. Encourage your child to look at writing on posters, logos, shop signs etc. Try activities with playdough, paint or messy play to encourage them to use their fingers .

Encourage your child to explore and sort coins. Look for numbers in the local area - road signs, door numbers etc. Sing counting rhymes or pop songs with numbers in. Look for circles, triangles rectangles and squares around the home or when out and about.

Spot different types of transport when you are out and about. Look at the different colours of cars. Find pictures of cars and other transport in magazines. Use bath time to fill containers and see if they sink, do they float when they are empty? Visit a park and explore the push and pull forces that you use to play.

Play with cause and effect toys with your child. Look at how pressing a button on a toy can create an effect. Let us know what clips your child likes to watch.



PE - We have PE in the hall on Thursdays and Fridays this term. Next half term we will have PE on Thursdays and will be swimming on Fridays.

Please send a PE kit in so we can help the pupils to develop their independence in dressing and undressing (any comfortable shorts, T-shirt and appropriate footwear).

When we begin swimming again please send in a swimming kit, shower gel and antiperspirant as we will be encouraging the class to have a shower after swimming and supporting developing independent washing.



Home-School Book

We will try to write in the home-school book daily to let you know about your child's day. However I will usually contact parents by telephone if I feel there is something you need to know quickly. Please feel free to write what your child has been up to at home, any new achievements and any concerns or questions you may have. If your child has missed breakfast, or had a bad night's sleep - please let us know so that we can care for them accordingly. I am happy to email you our weekly newsletter if you would prefer it in an electronic form. I can be contacted on the school email system if you would prefer to email me, at karen.salamon@walnuts.milton-keynes.sch.uk if you contact me by email please note that I do not always get a chance to check emails before school starts or during the school day but usually check them after school.

We are hoping to begin shopping with your child next half term and would be grateful if you could send in a small amount of money for them to buy an item to bring home from the shop and/or to visit a café. Further details will be sent out soon.

Thank you for taking the time to read this flyer. If you have any other queries, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Best Wishes,

Karen and the Poplar Class team