

# SPRING



Dear Parents, Carers and Lower Dart Children,

Spring Term 2019

It's been a busy, but great start to the term and may it continue with lots of fun, exciting learning and growing brains! This term, Miss Mount will teach the children all week, except on Wednesday afternoons, when they will have Mrs Reynolds for Computing, reading and spelling and on Thursdays when they will have Mrs Reynolds in the morning and Ian Patchett for PE and Tom Deam for Violins. We continue to be supported by Debbie on Mondays & Tuesdays with Fiona for the rest of the week. Fiona also does some 1:1 work with some children.



**Topic:** Our topic this term will be The Romans. The children have already shown lots of enthusiasm and have asked lots of interesting questions, which we will investigate. This theme will run through much of the children's studies, particularly within

maths, literacy and geography of course. We will also be looking at 'What the Romans did for us!' and the Roman invasion of Britain. Children are welcome to bring in any artefacts or topic books on Tuesdays, when we have a topic focus.

**Curriculum:** The children will be developing their **literacy** skills and the Year 2s will continue to build on all the skills and knowledge that they will need for their SATs tests in May, with work linked to the Romans theme, where possible. All children continue to have four **phonics/spelling** sessions a week, including the test on Fridays. The children will have a **maths** lesson each day, focusing on a range of mental and written strategies. Children will then be able to use those skills in a variety of problem-solving situations. We are still aiming to get our maths learning as good as our reading and writing. This term we will continue to focus on embedding our key facts and will be using some exciting, new online resources to support us. We will also continue to encourage the children to learn their times tables at school and home (Watch this space for the online resources!). The **science** topic for this half term is Animals, including Humans.

**PE:** Your children will need their PE kits in on **Mondays** and **Thursdays**. It is very important that they have kit in school for their PE sessions on these days especially in the colder weather. Handball and dance is our main focus and we hope to get as many children as possible to various festivals and competitions.



**Homework:** We will continue to send spellings home as from this week. Please make sure the children have a chance to practise them for the test on FRIDAYS. I will also send some maths homework each week on a Friday to be handed in by the following Friday. This will help children consolidate the work we have been doing in class and let you know what we've been up to.

If would like to discuss any aspect of your child's school experience during the term, or if you have any concerns, please feel welcome to drop in to see us. We are also very happy if you would like to come into the classroom and see first hand, the sort of experience your child is having in Lower Dart.

We will be taking great care to ensure all members of the class are challenged in their work and enjoy all aspects of their learning. We are about to become a THRIVE school; which means we will use the THRIVE approach throughout our setting and as part of our whole school ethos. THRIVE is a specialist intervention programme that supports children with their emotional health, well-being and social skills; all of which are needed for learning to take place. We will send you a bit more information and invite you to a Q & A drop-in session in the very near future. Thank you for helping us, by encouraging your child to complete their homework and by having the right learning equipment (and PE kit) in school every day.

*Sophie Mount, Paula Reynolds, Debbie Dracup & Fiona Dunn*