Dear Parents and Carers,

We are very much looking forward to working with you to enable your child to achieve the best outcomes at school this term.

This is a letter to inform you of the topics that will be taught during the Autumn term. It provides information about the learning opportunities planned for your child and the skills, knowledge and concepts being developed.

**Maths**
The children will be following the Singapore approach to learning Maths. This method develops pupils' mathematical skills and confidence. The children will use concrete materials to understand maths concepts. This is a 'hands on' component using real objects and it is the foundation for conceptual understanding. Children will then be able to represent the problem using pictures and diagrams. They will then be able to use mathematical notation to represent the problem. This is called the Concrete-Pictorial-Abstract approach and is the core of Singapore Maths.

The children will also use Big Maths in Year 3 to help them master their 3, 4 and 8 times tables.

In the Autumn term we will learn about;
- Recognising place value in 3 digit numbers
- Comparing and ordering numbers to 1000
- Mentally adding and subtracting 3 digit numbers
- Solving problems
- Recalling the 3, 4 and 8 multiplication tables
- Using written methods for addition and subtraction of 3 digit numbers

**English**
Literacy lessons will draw on reading, writing, comprehension, spelling, drama, grammar and punctuation to give the children rich and eloquent English. These lessons will also use a similar format to
Numeracy with a mental warm up in the form of Vocabulary, Connectives, Openers and Punctuation (VCOP) games, followed by an introduction to the genre and writing techniques. Literacy is broken up into a variety of genres which are;

- Information texts
- Performance poetry
- Stories with familiar settings
- Adventure and mystery
- Reports

**Writing**
The children will have an extended time in which to write one piece of detailed writing a week. This writing will be supported by their Big Talk homework, VCOP games and teaching input. It will form the basis for their writing assessment in Year 3 and will be marked thoroughly to give the children targets. These targets are vital to help the children improve their writing and will be based on improving their VCOP, as explained below.

V- Vocabulary- using ambitious vocabulary not expected for their age e.g. exquisite
C- Connectives- using connectives to connect sentences e.g. because, however, but
O- Openers- using openers to open sentences e.g. first, meanwhile
P- Punctuation- using the correct punctuation in sentences e.g. ! ? , ( ) . ‘ ”

**Reading**
The children will become reading experts equipped with the necessary skills to help them not only to read well but to comprehend, deduce and infer knowledge from what they have read. The children will continue to use the following characters to help them complete their reading missions.

R- Rex the Retriever
E- Expi the Explorer
A- Ansa the Analyser
D- Dood the Detective

**Spelling**
Children will compete in a school Spelling Bee; this will help them to learn the National Curriculum common exception words for their age group. The children will have opportunities to learn these in class and at home. They will work in teams to compete in classroom heats and classroom games to reinforce the spellings. Spelling lists will be sent home fortnightly, to enable the children to practice at home; there will be a spelling test every other week.

Children will also learn patterns in spelling, such as adding prefixes and suffixes. They will understand homophones and be able to write from memory simple sentences, dictated by the teacher, that include words and punctuation taught so far.

**Grammar**
In the Autumn term we will look closely at;

- Using articles ‘a’ and ‘an’ correctly
- Recognising when verbs are singular or plural
- Extending sentences with more than one clause using conjunctions
- Using the present perfect form of verbs
- Using commas in lists
- Selecting adjectives to describe nouns
- Punctuating sentences correctly
- Using prepositions to express where something is
Science
In the Autumn term we will be learning about:
*Animals including humans* - Pupils will continue to learn about the importance of nutrition and will be introduced to the main body parts associated with the skeleton and muscles, finding out how different parts of the body have special functions.

*Rocks and Soil* - We will compare and group together different kinds of rocks on the basis of their appearance and simple physical properties. Children will describe how fossils are formed when things that have lived are trapped within rock. In addition, they will observe how soils are made from rocks and organic matter.

Project
For the first half of the Autumn term we will be learning about the ‘Stone Age’. We will learn about how people lived, prehistoric animals and tools they used. We will compare life in the Stone Age to modern day.

After the half term our next topic will be ‘Healthy Eating’. The children will be learning about the importance of keeping active, how to live a healthy lifestyle, as well as looking after their own mental health.

PE
Children will have two PE lessons a week; they need to bring PE kits on a Monday and take them home again on Friday. Your child will need navy sports shorts, a white T-shirt, tracksuit top and bottoms for the Winter (any colour), and trainers all labelled in a PE bag.

Homework
Homework will be handed out on a Friday and expected back for the next Tuesday. It will consist of a Numeracy and Literacy Homework. Once every fortnight the children will receive spelling homework, this is a list of spellings for the children to practise at home ready for a test. Big Talk homework will go home every Thursday, this is to support the children’s Big Writing lesson on the Friday – it will need to be returned to school the next day for this lesson.

It is vital that children are reading regularly at home and discussing their books with an adult. Children are also expected to complete at least 15 minutes of Matheletics and Education City computer activities every week.

Please feel free to come to school to discuss any issues or concerns you may have. Please visit the school website at [www.west-twyford.ealing.sch.uk](http://www.west-twyford.ealing.sch.uk) for regular updates on our learning.

Yours faithfully,

L Darlington
Mrs Darlington
Class Teacher

Miss Rachel Martin
Headteacher