



# Earl Spencer Primary School

## Spring Term Newsletter

### Dates for Parents

7th February– Author Neil Griffiths is in school

12th February– EYFS & KS1 Valentines disco

13th February– Year 5 & 6 Valentines disco

14th February– Year 3 & 4 Valentines disco

15th February– Mufti day & Parents morning

16th February– School closed for Staff Training day

26th February– School reopens to pupils

### Useful information:

PCSO Andrew Emberton

Andrew.Emberton@northants.pnn.police.uk

School contact information:

Tel: 01604 751130

Email: [senco@earlspencer-pri.northants-ecl.gov.uk](mailto:senco@earlspencer-pri.northants-ecl.gov.uk)

### Safeguarding

#### NSPCC PANTS rules

You've probably already talked to your child about things like crossing the road safely. Talking to them about staying safe from sexual abuse is just as easy with the NSPCC PANTS rules.

Talk PANTS helps children understand that their body belongs to them and they should tell someone they trust if anything makes them feel upset or worried. Find out more on the NSPCC website.

### Importance of Good attendance

Out of the **365** days in a year, your child will only be at school for **190** of those. That is only **52%** of the year!

Research has proven that there is a high correlation between school attendance and academic performance and success.

Absence from school is often the greatest single cause of poor performance and achievement.

#### **What can parents do to help?**

- \* Parents must model the value of education, including the importance of regular attendance.
- \* Make sure that your child goes to school regularly and arrives on time-you will establish a good habit that they will carry through life.
- \* If your child starts missing school, work with the school to put things right. Make sure your child understands that you do not approve of him/her missing school.
- \* If your child is ill or must miss school for some other reason, contact school immediately. Do not expect school to approve of shopping trips, birthday treats etc. during school hours. Arrange family holidays so

### Online Safety

Ensuring that your child is safe online can be extremely challenging. Children have access to the online world in so many different ways that it can be extremely difficult to keep track of things. The school is here to help—we send out regular online safety newsletters that offer support and guidance, including highlighting the worrying trends of the moment. We can also offer guidance through our FSW for those families that need more intensive support. There is a wealth of information accessible online to support parents. Our school website can signpost you to different areas of support- [Online Safety | Earl Spencer Primary School \(secure-primariesite.net\)](#)

# Curriculum

## This term in EYFS:

Our topics of Starry Night and Signs of Spring support our work on time, learning about the seasons and the changing of our environment throughout the year.

This term we are excited to begin Forest School visits on a Thursday afternoon. Every child will visit the Forest School area in the school grounds once every 3 weeks. Children will need to bring extra warm clothing to change into. Further details and the dates that your child will be attending will be sent home shortly.

Children have been working well through our phonics scheme and working steadily through Phase 3. We continue to read regularly in school and thank you for continuing this work at home. Please do ask your child what a digraph is... it is when 2 letters together make one sound, for example 's' and 'h' together make a 'sh' sound.

A reminder for PE – children should bring their kit every Tuesday morning and will change in school. At this colder time of year, they could bring in jogging bottoms to wear over or instead of their shorts. Please can you check that all items of uniform, PE kits, bags, shoes, jumpers etc are clearly named as the tub of lost property is full of un-named and unclaimed clothing.

## This term in Key Stage 1:

Key Stage 1 have had a lovely first full week back getting stuck into their topics! This half term Year 1 will be 'Bright Lights, Big City' where they will be learning about the physical and human characteristics of the United Kingdom, including a detailed exploration of the capital city, London. They have already held a tea party and have had a visit from 'King Charles' where they got to ask him some questions!

Year 2's topic this half term is 'Coastline' where they will be learning about the physical and human features of coastal regions across the UK and will be comparing this to other non European countries. The Year 2 children have already had a 'day at the beach' to get the feel for what being at a beach would be like. Make sure you regularly check our class pages on the school website to see what we are getting up to!

## This term in Year 3 & 4:

Welcome to the spring term, we hope you have had a restful break and are looking forward to the lighter evenings returning soon.

This term in year 3, our driver project is Geography – Rocks, relics and rumbles, where the children will be learning all about the different layers that make up the Earth, how volcanoes are formed and what makes earthquakes happen. In science, the children will be learning about forces of push/pull and how friction is used to slow objects down. Later in the term, the children will be learning how magnets attract and repel each other. As part of the design and technology project, the children will be looking at designing and then making a toy, using cams. Art and design this term will be looking at real life ammonites, which the children will sketch, print and then sculpt their own using clay. Later in the term, the children will be learning about the artist LS Lowry and using his inspiration to create artwork about the school in his style. The English this term will be linked to the geography topic with the children starting with a non-chronological report, then creating poetry, writing a newspaper report based on a volcanic eruption and then finishing with writing diary entries. The math's

this term will focus on multiplication and division, length and perimeter, fractions and then measure using g and kg.

This term in year 4, our driver project is Geography – Misty Mountains, where the children will be learning all about the characteristics and features of rivers and mountain ranges around the world. For the beginning of the term in science, the children will be learning about solids, liquids and gases and how these change state when they are either heated or cooled down. In the later part of the term, the children will be looking at classification of living things.

As part of the design and technology project, the children will be looking at the designer William Morris and using his work as a starting point to design and then print a sample of fabric. In art and design this term, the children will be using and developing their skills of sketching, printing and clay modelling. The English this term will be focused around the geography

topic with the children starting with a diary entry, then creating an information leaflet about hill walking, writing an explanation text about the water cycle and finishing with the writing of a setting and character description for a fictional narrative. The math's this term will focus on multiplication and division, length and perimeter, fractions and then decimals.

## Curriculum Continued

### This term in Year 5 & 6

The Year 5 are topic is Sow, Grow and Farm. In this project your child will learn about allotments in the United Kingdom and how the government encouraged people to have them to support food rationing during the Second World War. They will learn about food webs and animal life cycles, including how living things are dependent on one another within a habitat. They will investigate the different ways that plants reproduce and will dissect flowering plants to identify the different structures. They will have the opportunity to learn about farming in the United Kingdom and the techniques used in modern farming, including the challenges that farmers face. They will learn about the benefits of eating seasonally and about the pros and cons of importing food. They will also learn about world farming and how the different climate zones affect where different foods can be grown.

The Year 6 topic is Frozen Kingdoms project. In this project your child will learn about the regions of the Arctic and Antarctic. They will learn about the similarities and differences between these two regions, including the climate, landscape, and natural resources. They will learn how to use grid references, lines of latitude and longitude, contour lines and symbols to identify the geographical locations of the Arctic and Antarctic, and how these, along with the tilt of the Earth, affect day length and warmth. They will investigate polar oceans to learn how they differ from other oceans on Earth and how climate change increases Earth's temperature and leads to rising sea levels. They will learn about the indigenous people of the Arctic, including how their lives have changed over time, and about the positives and negatives of tourism in Antarctica. They will also learn about classifying animals, animal adaptations and evolution, and polar exploration and discovery..

## PE

### EYFS

This term in EYFS we are looking at Throwing and Catching. Children can move freely, with confidence and in a range of skillful ways. Children will learn to accept the needs of others, turn taking and sharing using a different range of throwing and catching techniques. We will also follow Real PE- Unit 3 which focuses on Dynamic and Static Balancing.

### KS1

This term in KS1 we are looking at Dodgeball children will improve their ability to move fluently, changing speed and direction. They should continue to develop key fundamental movement skills, both with and without a ball, improving their ability to move in a safe, controlled way. Children develop basic ball control including catching and aiming at a target. We will also follow Real PE- Unit 3 which focuses on Dynamic and Static Balancing.

### KS2

This term in KS2 we are looking at Athletics. Children will learn, develop and refine techniques and actions needed for a range of athletic disciplines. They will also develop their understanding of the throwing and jumping techniques that are required to achieve maximum distance and height and use their judgement around pace when running for distance. We will also follow Real PE- Unit 3 which focuses on Dynamic and Static Balancing.



### Competitions

We will be taking part in a variety of competitions & festivals, across a range of different sports such as Gymnastics, Archery, Cricket, Multi Sports, Hockey, Kurling and Indoor Athletics.

The majority of events will be for children in KS2, but we are very excited to be taking part in Kurling this term, which will be our first event involving KS1 children. We will be using some of our lunchtimes to practice for some of these events to make sure children feel confident before the competition or festival.