

Welcome back! I hope you've all had an enjoyable Christmas Break – Thank you very much for the kind gifts I received from you and your child. They have all been very much enjoyed!

In Creativity, we will be looking at The Maafa, a Swahili word used to describe the harsh treatment and subsequent enslavement of black Africans during the Transatlantic Slave Trade. Your child will learn about Africa today and the ancient kingdoms that thrived on the continent for thousands of years. They will research the origins of the Transatlantic Slave Trade in the 15th century, and Britain's involvement from the time of Elizabeth I, when John Hawkins became the first British slave trader. Pupils will understand the structure of the Transatlantic Slave Trade and the consequences of enslavement for enslaved people, and also discover how the people of Britain benefited from the money and goods produced by the slave trade. We will investigate the causes and consequences of the abolition of slavery in the 19th century, the worldwide African diaspora and the European colonisation in Africa. Pupils will also explore the lives and actions of black people in 20th century Britain. They will understand how the Race Relations Act of 1965 became the first piece of British legislation to tackle racial discrimination and know that the Equality Act 2010 provides people with protection against racism and other forms of discrimination, today. Your child will also explore the lives of black people, who have made significant contributions to Britain, and will celebrate black culture in Britain today.

### *Snacks + Water*

Key Stage 2 children can bring in their own fruit from home to eat at break time. Milk can be also purchased via the Cool Milk Scheme.

Please send your child in with a named bottle of **water** each day. No juice or squash please.

### *Classroom Organisation*

Ruby Class will continue to be taught by me (Mr Downings) with support from Mrs Jackson, both in class lessons and during interventions sessions, which will give extra targeted support to pupils.

Power Maths will again be taught separately in discrete year groups. Please continue to support your child in developing their mental arithmetic skills at home – particularly their fluency in multiplication and division. All children have login details to access Times Table Rockstars, which will help with this.

At the end of the day, children will be dismissed from the main gate.

### *School Uniform*

Please ensure that all clothes are labelled with your child's name, so that it can be identified easily and that appropriate black footwear is worn in school. Due to the cold weather, pupils should also wear a coat to school as outdoor learning is an integral part of our Curriculum.

### *PE*

This term, PE sessions for Ruby Class will still be on Tuesday and Wednesday, and will take place outside where possible. Children should attend school in their PE kits on these days. Please ensure that they are dressed appropriately for the weather and that their footwear is suitable for physical activity outdoors. Children with long hair must also be able to tie it up for PE, and all earrings must be removed or taped over.

### *Reading*

Pupils need to have their reading book and Reading Diary in school every day. We recommend that children read their reading books at home for 15 minutes each day. Please encourage your child to sign or write in their diary after they have read. A member of staff will check their records each week. Their Reading Records also contain a list of the compulsory spelling words from the National Curriculum.

Children will also have a teacher led Guided Reading session each day and will be heard reading regularly in school on group and individual texts.

### *Need to chat?*

Please don't hesitate to get in touch via email at: [mark.downings@bishoppurglove.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:mark.downings@bishoppurglove.derbyshire.sch.uk) if you have any questions or concerns.

### *Art Shirts*

It would be very helpful if you could provide an old shirt or t-shirt (that your child could keep in school) to put over their uniform to help protect it when we are using paint and other messy stuff!

### *Homework*

Pupils will continue to complete weekly homework tasks using CPG Revision Guides. Homework information will be sent via the school's app messaging system.

### **Year 6 SATS**

Year 6 SATS will be held from Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022 to Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2022. In order to help the children to prepare for these tests and to reduce their anxieties about them, we will begin doing Practice SAT papers as part of our weekly English and Maths lessons. Practising questions under timed conditions and reviewing them together, will help your child to develop their test technique and strategies to help them understand the question and respond fully. Questions and papers will be repeated regularly to embed these strategies and help develop a positive mindset to sitting these assessments in a few months time.

### **Residential Visit**

The Year 5 + 6 Residential Visits are always a massive highlight of the children's time here at Bishop Pursglove. Year 5 will attend their Residential Visit from the 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> May 2022, with Mr Shepbeck and Mrs Jackson. The Year 6 Residential, with myself and Mrs Jackson, is booked for the 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> June.

Once again, I look forward to working with you and your child throughout this term.

Kind Regards

Mr Downings – Year 5 + 6 Class Teacher