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Welcome to Phoenix Class!

Autumn Term One

Welcome back!

We hope you have had a fantastic summer. We are super excited to begin this term with Phoenix and get back into our school routine! On a Tuesday afternoon, Mrs Osborne will be covering my PPA time, and I will not be in school on a Thursday. The class will be taught by Mrs Osborne every Thursday alongside Miss Burns and Miss Collier who is joining our Sutterton team. Please message the appropriate staff if needed, so that urgent messages are picked up.

Topic

This term in Phoenix class we are exploring a new topic entitled 'Mountains and Deserts'. The topic includes finding out about the different mountains and deserts across the world, the countries that have them and where these are located on a map. We will be finding out about what physical/human features makes these places unique and why each of them are important to human life.



Reading and Literacy

We always try to encourage a love of reading as much as possible within school. One way we do this is through text-based writing, which means that we have a book we read together and use in our literacy lessons. To start the term off, we will be looking at 'King of the Cloud Forests' by Michael Morpurgo which is a lovely story focused on the characters journey through the Himalayas.

Within literacy, we will be focusing on non-chronological reports, narrative writing and explanation texts.

Please ensure that your child is reading at home **every** night, as well as recording their reading in their reading records. Children will take AR tests throughout the week with books usually being changed by Wednesday, so please ensure these are being brought back into school. Spellings will be sent home on a Friday with homework - spelling tests are the following Friday mornings.

Maths

Maths will be split this year for the Y4 and Y5 children. The Y4's will go to Mrs Griffin's classroom each day for their maths lesson. This is so all the Y4s in the school follow the Y4 curriculum, it also means they can prepare for their multiplication check. The Y5 children will stay in class with me to complete Y5 maths.

We will be starting off the term learning all about place value and number. Children will have daily arithmetic questions as a maths starter to spend 10 minutes on for practice, as well as daily reasoning and problem-solving questions and challenges.

For our Y4 children. as part of the government scheme, in June 2025, all Y4 children will be carrying out a times tables test which they we will be starting to practice this year. For this, children need to know all their times tables up to the 12 times tables. Sumdog is an excellent way of practicing this, if you can please ensure your children are using this that would help a lot. If you have any problems with Sumdog, please let me know.

Science

In Science, we are moving on to a new topic all about animals including humans where we will focus on a variety of food chains, identifying producers, prey and predators. We will answer questions like; 'What is a food chain?', 'What is an ecosystem?' as well as 'What role do predators, prey and consumers play in food chains?'

P.E

Within P.E. this term, we shall be focusing on activities on a **Wednesday**, and another curriculum area with JB Sports on a **Friday** afternoon. Please ensure your child comes to school with their PE kit on those days if they are not keeping them in school, although we encourage PE kits to be left in school now. Please also ensure that your child does not wear earrings and that long hair is tied up on PE days.

Key Information

- Please ensure that children are bringing in the correct PE kit on the relevant days.
- I'm not in school on a Thursday, so please message Mrs Osborne should you need to that day.

It will be an exciting and busy term, with lots of fun things to look forward to!

Many Thanks,
Phoenix team 😊

Swineshead St Mary's Church of England Primary School, Abbey Road, Swineshead, Boston, Lincs, PE20 3EN Tel: 01205 820356

Sutterton Fourfields Church of England Primary School Park Avenue, Sutterton, Boston, Lincs, PE20 2JN Tel: 01205 460547

