# **Learning Letter – Darwin Class**

#### My Communication

#### Communication and Comprehension

This term we are reading poems by Benjamin Zephaniah.

While reading, we will complete a range of activities and tasks to improve our comprehension and understanding of topics words and learn more about different types of poetry and the features including in the poems we are reading.

Students will also complete different writing tasks based on poetry including writing and performing their own poems and topics writing about the key themes of the poems.

To develop our functional reading and writing, students will also of exercise of their bodies and how to maintain healthy be practicing reading and writing for different purposes including reading in the community and sharing personal information to access job opportunities and services in the future.

#### Ways you can help your child:

- Encourage students to read books of their choice at home to promote a pleasure for reading
- When reading, engage in discussions about what you have read such as what has happened already? What is your favourite part and why? What might happen next? Can you describe a character in the book in your own words?

#### My Body

#### Physical Education

In PE this term, students will be taking part in fitness sessions.

These sports will support students to improve their levels of fitness, learn about how different activities will build their muscle to create meals and snacks. strength and learn about cardiovascular exercises.

Some students will be leading short parts of these sessions such as warm ups and cool downs or supporting with planning new activities to complete as part of their circuits.

Students will also have opportunities to learn about the effects lifestyles.

#### Duke of Edinburgh

This term in Duke of Edinburgh lessons, we are working towards the volunteering modules. Students have chosen to take part in volunteering projects including maintaining the Forest School site, supporting in primary classes and making products to sell, raising money for a chosen charity.

## Ways you can help your child:

- Discuss rules in different sports such as football or cricket if watching at home.
- Encourage students to explore different ways to keep fit and healthy outside of school
- Explore charities and non-profit causes to gain a better understanding of charity work and volunteering

#### My Independence

#### Skills for Life and Food Technology

All students will have fortnightly practical cooking sessions this term. Within these lessons, students will be following recipes, measuring ingredients and using a range of kitchen equipment

Students will also have theory lessons to learn about food safety and hygiene, planning nutritious meals and shopping for ingredients.

In Skills for Life lessons, students will also learn about managing and using money including practicing paying for items and working out change in their setting and local community.

#### Work Related Learning and Enterprise

This term, we are focusing on out communication skills within a workplace and practicing interacting with others within a workplace context and setting and working with others to achieve a task or goal.

# Ways you can help your child:

- Discuss different careers or jobs that interest your child.
- Encourage students to cook at home. This could be making their own drinks and snacks or supporting cooking larger meals.

# My Community

#### Religious Education and Cultural Development

We are learning about the School Value 'Care' in our Cultural Development lessons this term. We will be learning more about what it means to be part of a community and how we can care for others in our setting, wider school and our community. We will also be completing a creative project as part of the School's 'Share and Care' day, creating something to gift to another class in the school.

After half term, we will be learning about Humanism in RE themed lessons. In these lessons we will be learning about the difference between religious and non-religious worldviews. Moving onto the origins, core beliefs and the meaning of the Happy Human symbol within Humanism.

#### PSHE / RSE

Our topics this term for PSHE include relationship values and self-concept.

During our relationship values lessons, we will be learning about our own relationship values and how we can articulate these to others. We will also explore discrimination and prejudice and learn more about our rights and responsibilities as a citizen.

Within our self-concept unit, we will be developing skills to manage transitional life stages, explore how the media can adversely affect body images and self-esteem and manage the pressures we may feel regarding out self-concept.

# Ways you can help your child:

- Discuss explore different religions and cultures within your family and community
- Encourage your child to engage in acts of kindness
- Offer support and guidance during social times with familiar and unfamiliar people

#### My Cognition

#### Maths

Our topics this term in Maths is timetables, money and budgeting. This includes using our knowledge of time on a both project, creating a Granta School guilt. Each student will plan analogue and digital clocks to read timetables and begin to plan and create their own quilt tile to be added to the collaborative journeys. We will also start our money topic, including understanding the value of coins and notes, making sure we have the correct coins and notes to buy items and working out change. We will move onto budgeting and think about how we can manage our own money such as making shopping lists within our budget and how budgeting can help us longer term, such as paying for bills and saving up for a holiday or large purchase.

Students will also be developing other maths skills including place value, using the 4 operations and applying these skills through worded problems.

#### Science, History and Geography

This term, we will be visiting Abington Woods regularly to complete projects that have been organised for students as well as maintaining the wood area and learn more about the wildlife and keeping safe outdoors.

#### Computing

In Computing, we will continue to focus on E-Safety. Students will also have opportunities their own movies on the laptops using a movie maker programme.

# Ways you can help your child:

- Support children reading the time in a range of formats
- Encourage children to solve problems using timetables or money.
- Encourage children to spend time outdoors and help with any gardening projects, litter picking in their local community or other ways to improve their local environment.

#### My Creativity

#### Art and Design

In the first half term, we will be completing a whole school quilt made by all students in the school.

After half term, we will be learning more about digital art. Students will learn about famous artists who used computers to generate images or make changes to images and how digital art is used in many areas today such as video games, music videos and films.

## Ways you can help your child:

- Try to spot computer generated images used in TV programmes or films. Are they easy to see? How do you know they are computer generated?
- Take part in a collaborative creative project at home with your family or friends.