



## NEWBOTTLE & CHARLTON CEVA PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Every person matters, every moment counts "I can do all this through him who gives me strength"*

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Headteacher: Mr Peter Smith

Chair Of Governors: Lady Hayter

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome back to school to you all. It's so lovely to be all back together again!

It is so lovely to be working in Key Stage 2 this year and I am really looking forward to working with all the children that I have known in Years One and Two, (and a couple extra,) and taking their learning forward. This year in Elm we are so lucky to have 3 TAs working with us. Mrs Hawes will be in the classroom with us all of the time and Mrs Belcher and Mrs O'Neill will share working with small groups and 1:1.

### Curriculum and Learning

We have started the term with a whole school topic called Our School: Our World. We have been learning about different stories from around the world about creation and noticing that a common thread that runs throughout all of them. That is that man has been given special responsibility to protect our world. We have been asking ourselves how man's actions have been destroying habitats, species and the climate and thinking about what we personally can do to help.

Following on from this our topic will be Rainforests. We will be finding the rainforests of the world on a world map and learning about their climate. We will learn about the different layers of the rainforest and the plants and creatures that live there. Finally, we will be thinking about how we can protect our rainforests from future destruction. We will be learning about plants and animals, classification and how they work as living things to stay alive. We are planning a trip to The Living Rainforest for after Half Term.

- **English-** In English we will be reading and analysing *The Great Kapok Tree* by Lynne Cherry in order to write our own versions. Later, we will be writing an explanation text about skeletons and muscles. We will continue to expand our knowledge of prefixes and suffixes, parts of speech and punctuation and learn additional spelling rules. This year we are adopting a new spelling system to complement spelling shed which we have used for the last few years. The new focus for teaching will be a two-week cycle where children focus more on investigations and sound associations which will help children to see links between words with an aim to improve spelling in their independent writing.
- **Maths-** In Maths we will be working on place value to 100s and beyond and addition, subtraction, multiplication and division methods. Year 3 will be concentrating on attaining fluency (by the end of the school year,) in their 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 10 times tables. Year 4, pupils will be working towards memorising all of their multiplication tables up to and including the 12 multiplication table by the end of the school year.
- **Art-** We will be looking at the work of the artist, Henri Rousseau, who painted vibrant rainforest pictures and taking inspiration for some rainforest paintings of our own. We will be working with collage and making rainforest dioramas so **please put away a shoe box** or similar ready to send into school for this. We will also be using a wax resist technique to paint toucans.
- **French-** In French we will be practicing saying the sounds used in French correctly and learning some basic vocabulary. After Half Term we will progress to learning to name animals in French.
- **Computing-** In Computing we will be learning about branching databases, comparing digital and non digital devices and learning about networks, routers and switches.



- **RE-** In RE we will be learning about The People of God and what it is like to follow God and finding out all about the trinity.
- **Music-** In Music we are very lucky to have Northampton Music Service come into school to teach a musical instrument to all children in our class. This year children will be learning how to play an ukulele which will be provided free of charge to your child.
- **PE-** Our PE days this term will be Mondays and Thursdays. We will be working on our coordination, static balances and tag rugby before Half Term and gym skills and invasion games after. Please send your child to school in PE clothes on these days and please remember to provide an additional pair of trainers to wear if the ground is muddy or wet. We will be outside when possible so as the weather becomes colder please dress for outdoor PE.

### Homework

You will receive a homework guide outlining expectations and general information. Homework will start on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September. Homework will be set out on our Homework Grid and on Seesaw. Please pick **one** of these activities each week to complete for your homework task + 20 minutes on Sumdog and Spelling Shed and reading 4 times per week. Spelling Shed words will also include words linked to our spelling investigations (named Go Grapheme Grafters), a set of 15 words which will be displayed in class over two weeks. Children will focus on learning to spell these words by using phonics and other strategies to tackle the tricky parts of them.

Please submit the homework on Seesaw and I will look at it each Monday as well as checking who has been onto Sumdog or Spelling Shed. Please let me know if you require any additional resources or guidance. If you are having trouble using Seesaw at home, please contact us and we can discuss any further support we can give or find an alternative.

We are all really looking forward to a nice, normal, Autumn Term at school!

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any queries and I look forward to working with you.

Kind regards

Bev Rowe  
Elm Class Teacher