



# Broomhill First School



## Welcome to the Seabirds Class Newsletter

Our topic for this half term is:  
**Alternative Fairytales**



Autumn Term 2 – November 2017  
Mrs Preston

## Maths

As mathematicians we will be:

- Rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000
- Subtracting using number lines and starting to use column subtraction
- Identifying fractions of shape and calculating fractions of amounts
- Year 4 will also be learning about fractions written as decimals
- Multiplying using a grid and then moving on to a vertical method
- Measuring length, weight and capacity
- Doubling and halving numbers
- Using multiplication and division times tables facts to solve problems

## English

We will be learning about the features of Fairytales and comparing them with alternative versions. We will be reading *The Princess and the Pea* and *The Pea and the Princess* and working to develop a fairytale into a playscript. We will also be gaining hands-on experience of playscripts through our Christmas play - *Lights, Camels, Action*.

In non-fiction we will find out about instruction and explanation texts and will be writing our own instructions for Christmas crafts.

## Science

As scientists we will study sound:

- What is sound?
- How do sounds travel?
- How do we hear sounds?
- Investigating sources of sounds
- Understanding how volume changes with distance
- Experimenting with pitch to understand how we get high and low sounds.
- Record and present results of investigations

### **Geography**

As geographers we will be learning about maps:

- How to find things on maps using grid references
- OS map symbols
- Studying maps of the local area
- Creating our own fairytale maps
- Compass directions

### **RE**

We will look at Hinduism. Learning about the main beliefs and Gods, where Hindus worship and some of the main festivals.

### **PSHE**

We will be talking and thinking about staying safe during darker nights and discussing British values and what this means for us.

### **Computing**

We will be:

- Practising our keyboard skills to improve our typing
- Programming a beebot to travel round a fairytale map

### **French**

We will be learning about colours and words for animals.

### **PE**

Lessons will be on a Tuesday and swimming on a Friday.

We will be learning dance.

Children will need blue or black shorts, white T-shirt and sand shoes or trainers.

**These need to be left in school** and will be sent home on a half-termly basis for washing.

### **Art & Design Technology**

As artists and designers we will be:

- Experimenting with paint techniques to create a firework picture
- Following instructions to use cutting and joining techniques to produce a Christmas card
- Creating Christmas decorations using paper

### **Music**

Specialist drumming lessons will begin after February half term.

We will be learning songs for our Christmas production.

**Help your child at home this term by:**

- Encouraging your child to be responsible for their own things and as independent as possible. Do they need to remember their swimming bag? Have they taken out their earrings if it is a PE day?
- Encouraging them to remember to put letters, money envelopes etc. in the basket in the classroom.
- **Listening to your child read aloud as frequently as possible.** 5 minutes every day is more useful than a long reading session at a weekend but every little helps! Always initial their reading record and add an encouraging comment when you hear them read.
- Library books are changed on a **Monday**, please remind your child to have their library book with them.
- Helping them to learn their times-tables ready for the Friday tables test. There will be one to learn each week.
- Encouraging them to look for patterns when learning their spellings and to use the "Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check" method they use in class.
- Checking in their reading folders for any additional letters or school work.

Spelling lists and times tables for homework will be sent home on a Friday to be learnt for a test the following Friday. Please support and encourage your child to practise these every day.



**Water Bottles**

Please bring water bottles in daily.

