



## Year 5 & Year 6, Golden Eagle Class

### Autumn Term 2019

Welcome back after the Summer break. I hope everyone had a lovely rest and had lots of fun.

This Autumn term our main topic is China and we will be linking our learning to this topic across all of the subjects.

Literacy – In Literacy, we will be reading the story, The Willow Pattern. This is a story set in ancient China. We will be writing this story in our own words and focusing on sentence structure to create effect. We will be looking at different ways to open sentences and how we can rearrange subordinate clauses in a sentence for emphasis. We will be collecting interesting vocabulary to ‘up level’ our writing and using figurative language.

We will also be writing reports on China. We will explore a range of organisational devices used when presenting information as well as developing our use of punctuation for parenthesis and to mark clauses.

Reading - Children will continue to earn merit points for reading at home. Five reads = 1 merit! Reading comprehension will also be set every other week as homework. It is so important that children read aloud to an adult regularly but also that they discuss their reading. Asking your children to describe a character to you, retell the events of the story or write a review of a book can all deepen their understanding of the book. It is also important for children to develop the ability to scan a text for information at a greater speed and regular reading supports this.

We will be having daily reading lessons in school. These will focus on comprehension activities and book discussion. This term, we will be reading Kensuke’s Kingdom. We will be focussing on how a character is developed through a story, how different themes are used and discussed by an author. The children will be annotating copies of the text and using extracts to support their ideas and answers.

Maths – In maths this term, we will be exploring the number system and the ways we can represent numbers. We will be looking at negative numbers and decimals and investigating rounding. We will explore fractions and how they connect to decimals including equivalences and we will be solving word problems that use all of these skills.

We will be revisiting efficient written methods of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division and using these to solve multi step problems. We will also be learning how to solve calculations with fractions including multiplying and dividing fractions. We will explore algebra and using formula to represent calculations.

We will also be continuing with weekly mental maths assessments and times table tests.

Science – In Science, we will be learning about electricity. We will be building circuits and investigating the different electrical components and how they work. We will be learning the correct symbols to draw our own circuit diagrams and designing and making our own switches. We will be asking our own questions and planning our own investigations. We will also be investigating forces including gravity and air resistance, water resistance and how these forces affect movement.

PE – Our PE sessions will be on a Tuesday afternoon and a Thursday morning. We will be practicing our skills in Real PE and focusing on Gymnastic movements during term 1. After half term, we will be swimming on Tuesday afternoons and learning a Chinese dance during our Thursday session.

RE- Our focus for this term will be our Understanding Christianity units. We will be thinking about ‘What kind of King is Jesus?’ and making connections between belief in the Kingdom of God and how Christians put this belief into practice. We will also look at ‘Was Jesus the Messiah?’ and explain the place of Incarnation and the Messiah in the Bible and show how Christians put their beliefs about Jesus’ incarnation into practice in different ways in celebrating Christmas.

PSHE- This term we will be thinking about ‘Beginnings and Belongings’ and generating the ground rules for our class, thinking about how to build positive relationships and how to cope with different and new situations. After half term we will be looking at ‘Family and Friends’ and thinking about the networks of special people we have in our lives and consider the value of diversity within our friendships. We will also look at ‘Anti-Bullying’ and explore and apply definitions of bullying to different situations and contexts and consider the feelings and emotions related to bullying – both long and short term.

Art – In our art sessions we will be creating our own willow pattern plates and using water colour paint to recreate some Chinese art styles. We will be exploring proportion and using clay to make our own version of the terracotta army. We will also be exploring sewing and embroidery to create Chinese dragon puppets.

Computing- We are going to be working in teams to research how mobile phone apps work and how we can develop our own. We will be planning our project and learning about time management.

Geography- In this unit of work, we will be investigating the geographical features of the continents and exploring where China is. We will look at the physical and human features of China and some of its regions.

Design and Technology – During our DT sessions we be learning about nutritional information on food labels and learning how to cook some Chinese food. We will be comparing ready-made Chinese food and freshly cooked.

Spellings - Each child will have weekly spelling lists to learn. Please help your child by learning these spellings and looking at other words with the same letter patterns. Spellings will be tested on Fridays.

Homework – Children will be set a piece of Reading or SPAG homework weekly. They will be set a piece of Maths homework via MyMaths each week. All homework is set on a Wednesday and is expected to be handed in by the following Monday. In addition to this, children will be tested weekly on quick recall of times tables facts and spellings. Please support us by helping your child to practise these at home.

Thank you for your continued support

Mrs Findlay

Class Teacher