



# ELTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Lane, Elton, Peterborough, PE8 6RS

Telephone: 01832 280314

E-mail: office@elton.cambs.sch.uk

Website: www.eltonschool.co.uk

Headteacher: Claire Arnold

**“LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU”**

**FRIENDSHIP**

**TRUST**

**JUSTICE**

**ENDURANCE**

**COMPASSION**

**KOINONIA**

Dear Parents/Carers of St Christopher and St Etheldreda children,

Firstly, welcome back to the start of another school year! We hope that you all had a wonderful summer break and managed to squeeze in lots of fun. We are feeling fully refreshed and very excited to be back in school ready to embark on the next year as we hope you are too!

Our autumn term has an **“enquiry”** focus on the curriculum subjects.

Our **Big Question** this term is **“Can we live together in harmony?”** and we will be looking at the three concepts of **“Peace”**, **“Sacrifice”** and **“Morality”** to enquire about life today and in Ancient Civilisations in more detail.

Our whole class text, for the term, is **“Weslandia”** by Paul Fleischman. This a beautifully illustrated and inspiring picture book about creating your own new civilisation.

*(And please - no need to buy the book, we have enough copies for each child- in fact, we'd go so far as to ask you **not** to buy it, that way, we can all uncover the magic and suspense of the story at the same time every day in class and no one can give any “spoilers”!)*

This term will obviously have a very strong history base as we compare what life was like for the people in different Ancient Civilisations; investigating the amazing inventions that they came up with and that we still use today. We will be developing our geography skills locating these fascinating societies and cultures. During this topic we will having many opportunities to develop our grammar and writing skills, completing a range of different text types.

**Science-** Our science topic this term is “Animals including humans” with a specific focus looking at how living things digest their food. We will continue to work on and build our scientific enquiry skills planning and carrying out investigations to develop our understanding.

**Maths-** We will continue to work through the White Rose maths programme. The children will further develop their skills and work towards mastery in a range of different mathematical concepts. This term we will be revisiting, embedding and developing their understanding of **place value** with ever increasing numbers before moving onto **solving problems using all four number operations**. We will be further developing fluency, reasoning and problem-solving skills. Within each lesson we will build in opportunities for the children to practise their times tables, associated division facts and mental maths skills. *There is a government expectation that children will know all their times tables to 12 x 12 by the end of year 4 (and a statutory test in Summer 2025 for all Year 4 children) so any times table games you can play with your child at home to embed these skills would be great.*

**RE-** We will be delving into 2 different enquiry questions for two different faiths this term, **Christianity**, **“Why do Christians call themselves ‘The Body of Christ’?”** and **Sikhism**, **“How does the teaching of the Gurus move Sikhs from dark to light?”**. The children will further develop their skills in learning **about** religion (knowledge and understanding of religion and

**FRIENDSHIP**

**TRUST**

**JUSTICE**

**ENDURANCE**

**COMPASSION**

**KOINONIA**

worldviews) and learning *from* religion (responding to religion and worldviews). During these units the children will be making connections and links building on previous topics and finding golden threads between other faiths. In these enquiry units they will be developing their understanding of the concepts through 3 areas: **Scriptural narrative, Community Practice and Daily Living.**

**Music-**We will be cultivating our singing skills and playing a range of instruments with increasing confidence and control. This will lead to developing ways to improvise and compose using musical notation and investigate some great composers and continue to appreciate the history of music. The question we will explore through our music lessons is “**How does music bring us together?**”

**Computing-** This term the two units we will be covering are: **Online safety and coding.**

**In the year 3** online safety unit the children will discuss the importance of passwords and keeping passwords safe. They will discuss how communities connect together, using the Internet and look at blogging as a way of connecting and communicating both in class and in school using Purple Mash. The children will start to understand that not everything on the Internet is true. In coding the children will learn how to use flowcharts, timers and be introduced to using repeat commands. They will code, test and debug to design and make an interactive scene.

**In the year 4** online safety unit the children will further develop their skills looking at “Phishing, Malware & Plagiarism” and what “healthy” screen time looks like. In the coding unit the children will further develop their skills learning number variables in order to design a playable game.

**In the year 5** online safety unit the children will investigate how to stay safe online, how to protect their privacy and cite sources. In coding the children will learn how to code efficiently, simulating a physical system using decomposition and abstraction.

**PSHE-** Our unit this term is “**Managing Safety and Risk**”. The children will focus on concepts of risk management in real life situations. They will explore ways in which risks can be assessed and reduced and how friends might influence them in risky situations. They will learn strategies to keep them safe near water and roads and be able to carry out simple first aid procedures.

**Latin-**Latin is a brilliant way to support children’s literacy as it can help children make connections between Latin and English grammar and vocabulary, and it gives them the key to unlock English. It also gives them a deeper cultural knowledge, helping them understand common concepts and phrases like “et cetera” and “Achilles’ heel.” Year 3 will begin their Latin journey learning about the origins of the English language and learn about present tense verbs. Year 4 & 5 will continue to develop their understanding of Latin nouns, verbs and how sentences are created.

**We will continue to set the weekly homework on “Microsoft Teams”.** Many of the tasks will be online games/completed verbally *so there is no need to hand in anything physical* as such, unless specifically stated in the homework task that week. We set the homework on Teams on a Tuesday and we will show the children during the day how/where to locate it on Teams each week and explain how/what to do. The weekly homework will consist of:

**Times Tables:** Every day for about 10 minutes we expect the children to be practising their times tables and associated division facts. (They should know how many 7s are in 42 as opposed to simply only knowing that  $6 \times 7 = 42$ .) *Please remember that the Government expectation with regard to times tables is that all children **by the end of Year 4** should know all their tables up to 12x. Year 4 children will also be formally tested in the summer term.*

**Daily Reading:** At least 15 minutes per day.

**Spelling:** Every Monday the children will be tested on the spelling strategies we have been looking at during the previous week in class. We will share these spelling strategies in the spelling sheet that we send home. Your child will also bring home a new copy of the Year 3/4 and 5/6 Spelling Lists that they were learning/learnt last term. The spelling lists for your child will be handed to them by the end of next week. (A copy of these spellings will also be posted on TEAMS)

We may also point the children towards games or activities set on Spelling Shed on some weeks (log ins will be sent home for this). The idea is that the children should be able to complete all of these homework tasks independently helping to develop the skill of taking responsibility for their own learning and being able to organise themselves effectively, without it being driven solely by parents.

If your child has mislaid/forgotten any of their passwords for Edshed, Microsoft Teams or Purple Mash please let us know and we can send them home with another copy.

### **HOMEWORK MATTERS**

Homework Matters enables the children to delve a bit deeper into our Big Question and produce their own mini-projects. The expectation is that each piece of Homework Matters will have taken some time to complete. (*It must be clear that a good amount of time as opposed to minutes have gone into creating something that can be beautifully presented*). For children with siblings in the school they may choose to work on a project together. We will be having a “**Homework Matters Showcase**” on **the 11<sup>th</sup> December**. The children will have the opportunity to share and present their fantastic projects with the whole school and the families in our school community.

**PE:** St Christopher will have PE on **Friday** mornings, and St Etheldreda on **Wednesday** afternoons, with Callum Reed. Your child may arrive for school in their PE kit on their PE day. Please remember that when the weather “turns” an additional fleece/long tracksuit bottoms will be needed.

**Water bottles:** Your child needs to bring in a water bottle every day and take it home every day to be thoroughly cleaned.

### **Change of shoes!**

We aim to stay on the field for as long as possible – even in wetter, muddier conditions – so please ensure that your child has a second pair of shoes/wellies/trainers (and a bag to keep them in) that can be used at break and lunch times. I’m sure you can imagine what our carpets would look like if 140 muddy kids tramped in!

Our email addresses are [hhannam@elton.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:hhannam@elton.cambs.sch.uk) and [jmurphy@elton.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:jmurphy@elton.cambs.sch.uk)

Kind regards

Mrs Hannam, Mrs Murphy & Mrs Hook