



**Last half-term, we enjoyed...** A warm welcome back and Happy New Year from the Red Class team! We all continue to be so very proud of all the children.

- Settling into our new classroom and learning and playing inside and outside
- Learning all about ourselves, our families, where we live, our bodies and how to be healthy (including our walk around the local area and trip to the park)
- Beginning to learn how to read and write and reading our first books
- Exploring different celebrations from around the world and from different cultures
- Our Nativity, the trip to the pantomime and all the exciting Christmas events

### **This term, we are looking forward to...**

This half term, our topic is **Magic Time Machine**. We will be learning about different periods of time from the past including the moon landing, dinosaurs, old toys and the 1980s (living memory.) Here, we will be exploring artefacts from the past and enhancing our learning throughout all areas of the curriculum. We will also be finding out all about winter and discovering how the world changes from season to season in our forest school sessions.

Next half term, our topic is **Growing!** Throughout these weeks, we will be learning about spring, new life and growing lots of plants including grass heads and some lovely plants to enhance our senses. We will taste and try lots of different fruit and vegetables and explore them in different ways. One of the most exciting things that will happen is that we will have some eggs in an incubator that will be hatching so we will be very busy taking care of some baby chicks! Throughout the spring term, we will also be continuing to take part in daily phonics lessons and practising our blending and segmenting skills as well as maths.

### **Key Vocabulary**

- Topic words: **Past, present, years ago, long time ago, millions, artefacts, grow, change, seed, root, stem, egg, hatch, light, water, baby, adult**
- Behaviour for learning vocabulary: **determined, effort, positive**
- Maths vocabulary: **greater, more, less, fewer, heavy, light, longer, shorter**
- Phonics words, **phoneme, grapheme, digraph, build, blend, smooth read, segment**
- Book words: **characters, setting, author, illustrator, fiction (story), non-fiction (information)**
- We are working on asking questions using **when, what, why, how** and using conjunction words in our speech **and, because** and **when**

### **Important days and dates**

PE is on a **Thursday**. Please continue to wear active uniform (see the website for more details.)

Mrs Turner teaches Red Class on a **Wednesday** all day and a **Thursday morning**

Reading books will be changed on **Mondays, Wednesdays** and **Fridays**. Please continue to read as often as possible (daily ideally) with your child – it truly makes a huge difference. Also don't forget to write what they have read in their communication books, so we know when to change books.

Please bring book bags and books daily so that we can read with your child in school and pass on any messages. Thank you.

**Trip** – A trip to the **Judges Lodgings to the Museum of Childhood (Spring 1)** Date TBC

**5<sup>th</sup> March** – World Book Day

**16<sup>th</sup> March** – Chick eggs and incubator arrive