



P.P.S. Elm Class

January 2019
Spring Term

Ciao Italia and Hola Peru!

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the Spring Term. We hope you had an exciting Christmas break and are ready to launch into the New Year.

Ciao Italia

We will be starting the year learning about Italy. To get us in the mood, we will be visiting a pizza restaurant before making our own pizzas in design technology. The children will be learning about how pizza differs from region to region, in Italy, and how they can create a design brief, focussed on a core sample group. They will also have the opportunity to make their own pizzas, using their designs and then share these with you.

This experience will support our instructional writing skills (recipes) and will allow the children to consider how to be precise and structured in their recipe writing

Within geography we will use maps to locate continents and countries within Europe. Looking more closely at Italy, we will be looking at the geography of the land and locating and naming major cities. We will have opportunities to compare our own country with Italy in terms of their natural resources, food, energy and climate.

In our writing, we will be composing our own stories for Radio 2's 500-word story competition. This will give the children the

This is just an outline of what the children will be exploring during this topic. We are using these newsletters to give you information about your child's education as this will replace the foundation subjects comments on the annual report.

opportunity to explore a variety of grammatical structures and develop their language use for a specific audience. Following on from this we will be writing newspaper reports, focussed on Italy, enabling the children to show off some of the learning they have completed.

Alongside this we will continue to enjoy our class stories and personal reading books. We will be focusing on non-fiction texts as part of our guided reading opportunities.

Music from Italy will help inspire us to learn and perform Italian dances and try out new sequences in our gymnastic lessons. We will be composing music based around Italian music too.

During the second half of the term we will learn about Peru

Hola Peru

Continuing our geography theme, we will be studying the geographical features of Peru and start making comparisons with the UK and Italy. Paddington Bear has to make an appearance in this topic! We will be reading and watching stories about Paddington to inspire ideas for literacy.

In order to show off our new knowledge of Italy and Peru, we will be creating trip advisor reviews and filming them using a green screen for special effects.

We will be learning all about music from Peru and how we can use different structures in our own compositions. Dance and racquet sports will make up our P.E. lessons.



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Over the whole term, we have some exciting science experiments and activities to complete too. In particular, comparing and grouping different materials, dissolving materials and looking at reversible and irreversible changes seen in everyday life.

Designing our own websites will form most of our computing lessons to begin with before moving onto coding and program design. Throughout the term we will be exploring aspects of e-safety.

As part of our religious education, we will be learning what incarnation and salvation means to Christians.

In French, we will be learning to say the alphabet in and continue to gain confidence using numbers. We will understand and use names for places in our local area. We will follow and give directions, and describe our route to school using verbs in the present tense. We will practise some strategies for keeping a conversation going.

Art lessons will focus on creating humans in motion. The children will use sketching techniques to observe, test and critique each other's motion pictures. The children will focus on perspective and creating proportion in their work. They will then have the opportunity to create their own charcoal interpretation of Skellig, linked to their literacy work.

Homework books will be given out on Wednesdays and handed back into school on a Tuesday. Writing, maths, reading, spelling will feature most weeks. If you have any questions about homework, please get in touch.

P.E. this term is on Tuesday and Wednesday.

It is important for your child to have their P.E. kits in school all week as we often change the timetable around depending on the weather.

Times Tables:

Children were expected to know all of the times tables by the end of Year 4. Please try to help your child with any they are still unsure of. Times Table Rock Stars is a great website to visit (<https://ttrockstars.com/home>).

Spelling:

We learn a new spelling rule every week and the list of words can be found in their homework books. They are usually tested on the words on Wednesdays.

We look forward to working with you and your children.

Tim Parsons and Laura Sandon-Webb

Key dates for you diary

Year 5 visit to Pizza Express – 10th January 2019

Mon-day	Tues-day	Wedne-sday	Thurs-day	Friday
	Home-work due in	Home-work set		
Timeta-bles test			Times tables test	
	Spelling test			
	PE	PE		