

Beech Class Autumn 1 Newsletter

We have had a **wonderful** start to year 5. I am delighted to see your children being so **polite, engaged** with their learning and trying their best in every aspect of school life. They have adapted very quickly to our new routines and are **conscientious** about keeping themselves and others safe.



Thank you to those who have managed to get onto Class Dojo, if you want any help please let me know and I can call you to talk you through it. We aim to post weekly, sometimes daily on there about how well our children are getting on and to share experiences.

Heritage Month

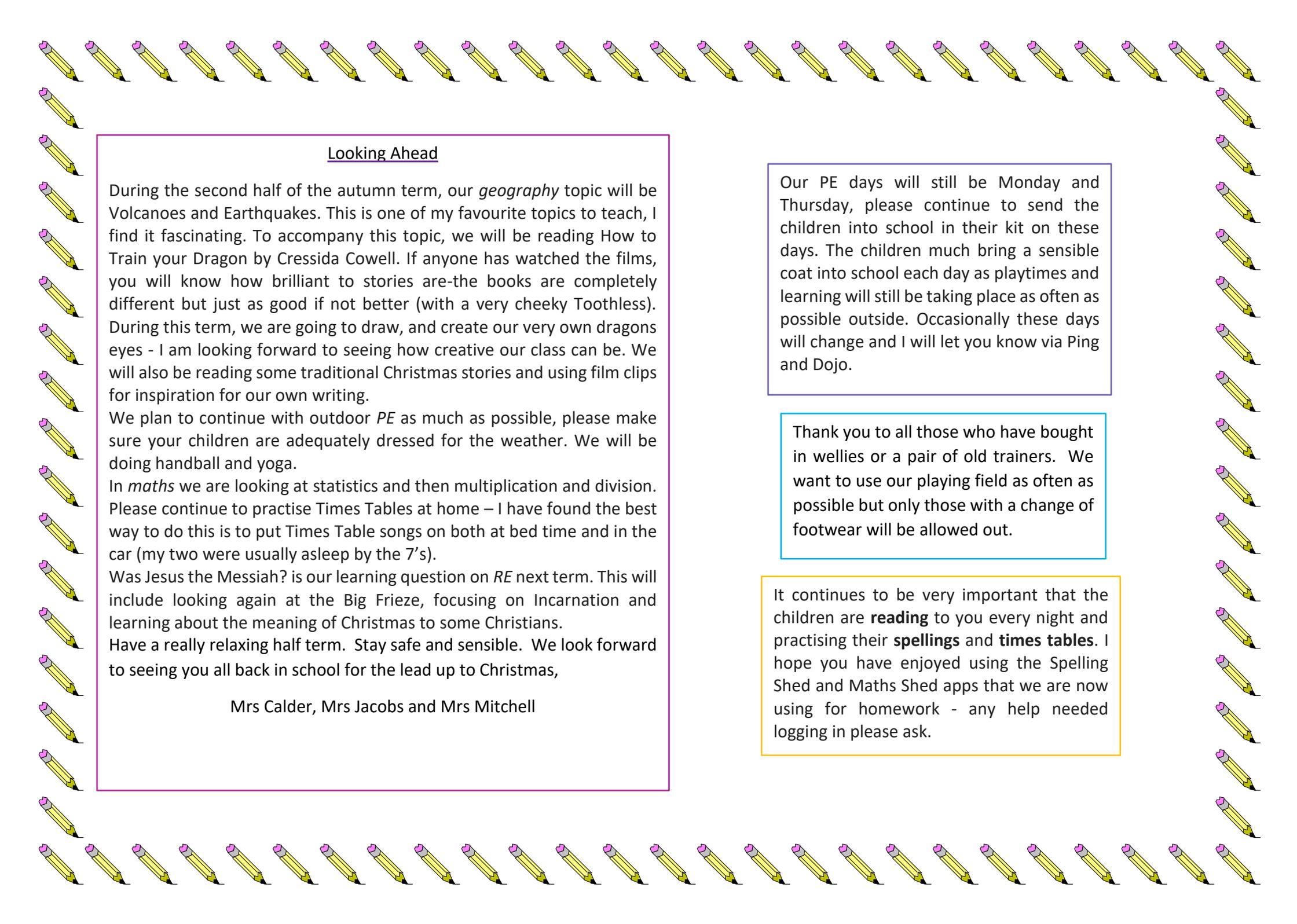
To celebrate our first Heritage Month at Newington, our class were so generous in sharing their families' rich heritage with the rest of us. I thoroughly enjoyed seeing so many photographs and items brought in from home-thank you. I did promise some scones but our term flew past – I'll see what I can do next term!

We have learnt so much in our *science* topic about Forces through doing experiments. The children have been very sensible whilst doing these, which has meant we have had more opportunities to learn in this way. Thank you for any resources that were sent in, they helped a lot.

Whilst learning about the *Ancient Greeks*, we enjoyed eating Greek food, learning about the Gods and of course finishing our term with a trip to Kent Life. The children were engaged, respectful and brilliantly behaved-well done them!

The children have renamed Friday to Fabulous Friday, as they have the fabulous Mrs Coleman all day. Mrs Jacobs and myself have snuck down to listen to their rendition of Bon Jovi's Livin' on a Prayer – they rocked it! They have been improving their French and finishing the week with a relaxed art lesson, this term learning about the works on Claude Monet.

As always in *Maths* we have started the year refreshing our knowledge on place value. In *English*, we have been using the book Who Let The Gods Out by Maz Evans. The children were hooked from the first chapter, with lots of groans each time I had to stop. Their enjoyment for reading is so refreshing and encouraging to see and must continue to be encouraged and promoted at home as well as at school.



Looking Ahead

During the second half of the autumn term, our *geography* topic will be Volcanoes and Earthquakes. This is one of my favourite topics to teach, I find it fascinating. To accompany this topic, we will be reading *How to Train your Dragon* by Cressida Cowell. If anyone has watched the films, you will know how brilliant the stories are - the books are completely different but just as good if not better (with a very cheeky Toothless). During this term, we are going to draw, and create our very own dragons eyes - I am looking forward to seeing how creative our class can be. We will also be reading some traditional Christmas stories and using film clips for inspiration for our own writing.

We plan to continue with outdoor *PE* as much as possible, please make sure your children are adequately dressed for the weather. We will be doing handball and yoga.

In *maths* we are looking at statistics and then multiplication and division. Please continue to practise Times Tables at home – I have found the best way to do this is to put Times Table songs on both at bed time and in the car (my two were usually asleep by the 7's).

Was Jesus the Messiah? is our learning question on *RE* next term. This will include looking again at the Big Frieze, focusing on Incarnation and learning about the meaning of Christmas to some Christians.

Have a really relaxing half term. Stay safe and sensible. We look forward to seeing you all back in school for the lead up to Christmas,

Mrs Calder, Mrs Jacobs and Mrs Mitchell

Our PE days will still be Monday and Thursday, please continue to send the children into school in their kit on these days. The children must bring a sensible coat into school each day as playtimes and learning will still be taking place as often as possible outside. Occasionally these days will change and I will let you know via Ping and Dojo.

Thank you to all those who have bought in wellies or a pair of old trainers. We want to use our playing field as often as possible but only those with a change of footwear will be allowed out.

It continues to be very important that the children are **reading** to you every night and practising their **spellings** and **times tables**. I hope you have enjoyed using the Spelling Shed and Maths Shed apps that we are now using for homework - any help needed logging in please ask.