



Curriculum Newsletter: Malumbe Class Term 2

10th January, 2024

Dear parents,

I am excited to start term 2 with these amazing students. We are looking forward to a term full of academic and extracurricular activities, eventually culminating in April Checkpoint Examinations. Although we will be extremely focussed on exam prep, we intend to make sure that we do not turn the term into a mad rush towards exams. The students will continue to participate in a well-rounded curriculum, slightly tilted towards exam preps. We think this will give them an edge as they look towards secondary school and beyond.

Our theme for the first half of the term is Africa. For the second half of term it will be historical African figures who made their mark on their communities. In the first week immediately after half-term break, we will conduct an official mock exam for English, Math and Science. We will provide adequate materials for thorough preparation.

We've got lots of other exciting things planned!

English: In English, our focus will be on expanding our reading and writing skills. We will also focus on spelling commonly misspelt words. The learners will be prepared for the checkpoint examination which they will sit for in April. The Cambridge Checkpoint English Tests assess progress in using the English language. They are not an examination with a 'pass' or a 'fail'. Instead learners will receive a 'profile' which indicates how well they have done in various aspects of reading and writing. There are two papers: Paper 1 will test reading and writing of information texts; Paper 2 will test reading and writing of fiction texts.

Maths: Similarly with Maths, learners will be put through preps for exams. We intend to make sure that the primary math learning criteria is met, before the students go off to secondary. There are a few areas remaining, which we will cover in the first few weeks. The term will then see us focus on strategies in mental maths, which is a key part of exam prep. The Checkpoint Exams will involve paper 1 and paper 2, both with a duration of 45 minutes. Paper 1 is written without a calculator and mental strategies are essential. Paper 2 is similar only that use of calculators is permitted.

Science: In science learners will be put through preps for exams. This term will be about making sure the learners have met the primary science learning criteria during the course of their stay at Sir Harry's. Learners will complete two exam papers, both of which are marked out of 50. Like the Maths exams, they will have 45 minutes to complete each paper. These papers assess children's knowledge of Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Scientific Enquiry. Topics that may come up in the papers include animals, habitats, electricity, the solar system, states of matter and scientific investigations.

Topic: The theme for the first half of this term is Africa. We'll be learning all about Africa geographically and culturally. We are going to utilise various research methods to explore the continent. After Half Term, we will switch to a study of significant African historical figures who left their mark in their communities around the continent where we will ask ourselves thought-provoking questions about what their life was like!

ICT: In this unit learners will learn how to use a computer in various ways. They will use computers to draw scenes (pyramids in a desert). They will appreciate how the internet can be an informative research tool into knowledge about Africa. They will learn how to author documents, format them appropriately and save them in folders. We will also look at responsible use of the internet, considering what should and should not be shared on the internet.

Art and Music: In art we will focus on studying African Art. Learners will appreciate the various designs found in different cultures and will have many opportunities to create their own designs. They will use computers to draw scenes.

RE: We are looking at Sikhism and thinking about the differences and similarities between it and other ways of worshipping.

PE In PE we shall learn tag rugby skills.

Homework: in line with the school policy, there will be some homework to complete on a daily basis. This will involve daily reading, weekly spellings and occasional other work including Maths, research projects for Topic or a small science investigation. We would really appreciate it if you would take time to help your child, and talk to them about what they have been learning.

Please try to be punctual so that we can start lessons on time. Every moment in class is precious! Drop off is **after** 7am.

We can't wait to continue building on the skills we have learnt last term.

Clubs are after school 2.15-3pm.

Year 6	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
7.30-7.35	Singing Assembly	Register	Register	Register	Celebration Assembly
7.35-7.45		Swimming (with Y5)	ENG	Dance/Drama	
7.45-8.00					
8.00-8.15	Math	Dan			Math
8.15-8.30					
8.30- 8.45		Math Mental	Math Mental	Math Mental	
8.45-9.00					
9.00-9.15	B	R	E	A	K
9.15-9.30					

9.30-9.45	PE (with Y5) Dan	ENG	Math	ENG	Science				
9.45-10.00									
10.00-10.15									
10.15-10.30									
10.30- 10.45	French JM (with Y5)	Math	Science	Math	Art & Design				
10.45-11.00									
11.00-11.15									
11.15-11.30									
11.30- 11.45	L	U	N	C	H				
11.45-12.00									
12.00-12.15									
12.15-12.30									
12.30- 12.45	Spelling	Spelling	Spelling	R/E					
12.45-1.00									
1.00-1.15	Eng	ICT	Music	Topic					
1.15-1.30									
1.30- 1.45									
1.45-2.00									
2.00-3.00	Clubs	Clubs	Clubs	Clubs					

All clubs finish at 15:00Hrs. Please collect your child from the front of school promptly.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. Banda', written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and somewhat illegible.

Mr A. Banda