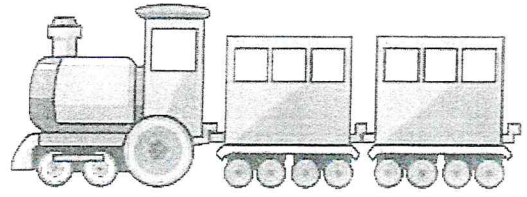


# OPAL CLASS SPRING NEWSLETTER

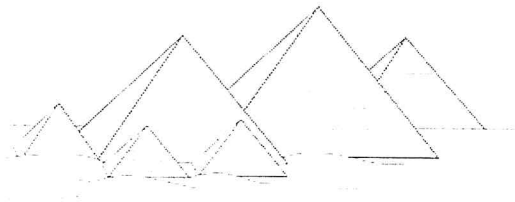
Wow... The Christmas holidays seem to have flown by! I hope you had a lovely break and your little gems managed to get some rest ready for the term ahead. We will be hitting the ground running with lots to do, learn and achieve between now and the Easter Holidays.

## TRANSPORT AND TRAVEL

The Spring term sees us introducing two new topics; the first half term will be all about transport and travel. The children are going to be focussing on the seven different continents learning about how people living around the world travel; learning about rickshaws, Boris' bikes and travelling on animals such as camels and elephants. Along our journey around the world the children will be learning about how and why people travel to different places around the world. We will be thinking about holiday destinations; places we have been or would like to go. With Britain's recent accomplishments to Space Exploration we will finish the term looking at Space Travel and designing and making our own futuristic spaceships.



If you have any interesting photographs or artefacts from your travels from this country or the wider world please send them in so we can share them with the class. ☺



## Ancient Egypt and Tutankhamen

After half term the children will be moving on to learning about Tutankhamen and his life in Ancient Egypt. We will be learning all about Tutankhamen's life as a pharaoh in Ancient Egypt learning about his way of life and the characteristics of the city in which he lived. We will study mummification, death masks and cartouches and specifically will look at the art work on the walls of the pharaoh's tombs. The children will learn about what it would have been like to be a young pharaoh and a young servant in Ancient Egypt; trying the different foods and learning about the toys they might play with. We will also have a go at building our own tombs, mummification and hopefully this term will include a trip... keep your eyes peeled for more information.

## Homework

Homework will continue as normal this term with the children receiving a new topic web of ideas to work from. The responses we have had to our project based homework has been extremely positive and has really aided us in our aim to get children excited about their own learning and following their own interests. It is wonderful to see them so excited to share their homework projects with us and I hope you enjoy completing them as much as I enjoy



sharing them with the class. **Please don't forget to practice your spelling walls with the children and send them back to school when they are secure with spelling the words to receive the next challenge.**

## physical education



every child is a winner when they try their very best!

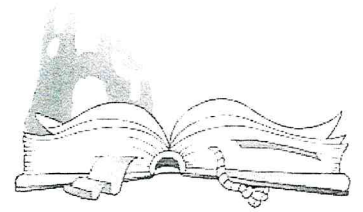
## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

P.E. will continue to take place on a Tuesday and Thursday however occasionally there are changes to the timetable so it is vital that the children have their P.E. kit in school **every day**.

Please may I take this opportunity to remind you that if your child attends mini-kickers or gymnastics and goes home with any kit they need for school it must return the next day for P.E. lessons.

## PHONICS SCREENING CHECK

This term the children will be doing a lot more work related to the phonics screening check they will be sitting during the Summer term. Please support us in this by ensuring the children use their phonic skills when reading – segmenting and blending all words they are unfamiliar with. Children should be reading regularly to practice this skill and the more they read the more likely they are to pass the screening check.



## AGE RELATED EXPECTATIONS

When the half term reports were issued just before Christmas I received a few questions regarding the levels the children had been given. If you have any questions regarding your child's attainment levels please don't be afraid to ask.

## Handwriting

This term the children will begin to learn how to form their letters in a cursive style in preparation for joined handwriting in the Summer term. Each time the children learn a new letter I will send home a practice sheet so you are aware how we are joining at school and can support your child to form letters correctly at home.

## Morning Routines

Now that the children have been part of Opal Class for a term may I please ask you to encourage their independence by saying goodbye to them on the playground. When the outside bell is rung the classroom door will open and they are free to come into school from 8.45. However please do not leave your child unattended until the outdoor bell has rung.

As always I look forward to working with you to help your little gem shine!

Miss Davis