

9th October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Porpoises Class Homework Project

This term our topic is history based and we are learning about **The Ancient Shang Dynasty**. To support and consolidate the children's learning, we would like them to complete a homework project. The project consists of a range of both practical and written activities that they can complete throughout the term.

Attached to this email is a list of activities from which the children can choose. Each child must complete at least one, good quality task. They may choose to do more if they wish. Due to space restrictions in the classroom we must insist that it will fit on their table space (half a rectangular school table) **All models/large items should be brought in on the day before the open afternoon (Monday 23rd November) as we do not have space in class to store them all.**

We strongly encourage children to think about their task early and not to leave it all to the last minute. Children should present their work neatly and to their best ability. While we encourage collaborative work with parents/carers, the majority of work should be completed by the child and they must be able to talk about it and what they have learned.

At the end of term, we would like the children to have their completed work in school to share at our open event. This is on the afternoon of **Monday 23rd November** If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Miss Catriona Johnstone
Porpoises Class Teacher.

Porpoises Class Homework Project – Autumn 2020

The Ancient Shang Dynasty

Write 10 facts about the Shang Dynasty.	Thousands of 'Oracle Bones' from the Shang Dynasty have been found with writing on them. Many of the characters on these bones still exist today. Find 4 of these characters and draw or paint them. Write the meaning next to it.	The Shang built their houses and public buildings out of wood and mud. Create a model of what a house or building might have looked like.
Write a poem about a Chinese Dragon.	Create a comic strip about a Chinese myth or legend that you have read.	Find out about the clothing that people would wear during the Shang Dynasty. Design and make a set of clothes and a way to display them.
Find out about one of the Shang Emperors and write a paragraph about them and their life.	Chinese dragons were mythical creatures often made up of many other animals e.g. a camel head, a snake neck, fish scales, eagle claws, whiskers, etc.) Draw and label your own Chinese dragon and write a detailed description of it, including what it looks like and how it moves. You could make a model that moves as well.	Cook a Chinese dish. Include the recipe and a photograph or picture of what you cooked. Get some reviews from people who ate it.
In the Shang Dynasty, the decimal system developed and there were characters for every number. Write some calculations using the characters. This website has the characters http://www.cultural-china.com/chinaWH/html/en/10Kaleidoscope997.html	Research traditional customs that are carried out at Chinese New Year and find a creative way of displaying this information.	Make a card game or board game that uses your knowledge about The Shang Dynasty.
The Shang Dynasty invented chopsticks. Find out what else they invented and make a list. Draw a picture to go with each one.	The Shang Dynasty society was divided into different classes. Find out about these classes and make a presentation explaining what each class was and their part in society.	Choose one of the other ancient civilisations which occurred at the same time as The Shang Dynasty. Compare the two and present the similarities and differences.