This letter will give you an overview of this term.

**A brief overview**Art – painting and printing

RE – Places of worship and Easter.

DT – construction techniques linked to landmarks.

**Topic** This term, we are learning all about Europe! We will be developing our Geography skills such as map reading, using atlases and identifying human and physical features in European countries.

Through this topic, we will be doing a lot more work on our French. If the children would like to practise at home, the BBC website for KS2 is fantastic.

We are very lucky to have Mrs Farrell as a trainee teacher this half term who will also be teaching the children a bit of German.

**Literacy**

We have had a lot of focus on ‘slow writing’ over the last term. We are focusing on the quality not quantity of our work and thinking about each sentence we write – the children are producing some fantastic writing as a result. We will be continuing with this as well as the idea that a piece of writing can be edited and redrafted and may never be ‘perfect’.

This half term we will be looking at the book Shackleton’s Journey. This is full of fantastic vocabulary and will inspire some brilliant poetry.

There is a big focus on vocabulary at the moment. When reading at home, I have asked the children to look up or ask about any words that they don’t know and then strive to use them in their writing and speech.

**Music** As you know, we are working hard on learning the songs and dances for Young Voices. Everyone should have taken home a set of words. It would be great if your child could attend the singing practice on Wednesdays after school as this is making up 50% of our practice time. Soon, Lucy Everett with come to work on the Dance Platform performance which is always brilliant.

 **Websites to Try at Home**<http://uk.mathletics.com/> - Mental math skills<http://readingeggs.co.uk/> - Reading<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games> - A variety of games for different Maths topics.[www.spag.com](http://www.spag.com) – A grammar website for year 6 (they all have a password and username)

**Maths** We will be continuing to focus on mastering key skills in maths such as times tables. We are also working hard to master each of the written methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will also be challenging ourselves with problems and real life contexts.

**Homework**

We will be continuing to use the CGP books for both spellings and maths. Talking homework will be sent home most weeks separately and will usually be in preparation for the following week’s Literacy work. Homework will still be sent out on a Tuesday and returned on a Monday. **In the lead up to SATs, year 6 may receive additional homework.**

**Science** Mr Russell from Cartmel Priory School will continue to come in and run sessions which are always really exciting.

We have already made a start on our first topic this term: Space. We will be learning about how we get our days and years as well as finding out about the moon.

We will then continue on to learn about forces in the second half of term.

**Reading** Please continue to encourage your child to read at home. We have many rewards in place for keen readers including extra breaks and prizes. It has been proven that children who read regularly excel in other areas too and this is visibly evident in the classroom.

**Seating**

Changing seats each week is working really well, and I am impressed with how well all the children are working together.