

3rd

September

2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you and your family had a restful and enjoyable summer break and are looking forward to the year ahead. We in **Matisse Class** can't wait to get started on our first term back, full of exciting learning opportunities. This year, the class will be taught by myself, **Mr Jeffries**, supported **Mr Walker**, who will also be teaching on Wednesday and Thursdays as part of his teacher training, **Miss Cowburn** and **Mrs Clarke** who will continue to provide invaluable support across **MOMA Gallery**. We look forward to welcoming the children back and getting the term started.

In **English** this term, we'll be exploring informative writing and diary entries, using the engaging books *Stone Age Boy* and *Stone Age Beasts*. These texts will help the children develop their ability to write with purpose and creativity, while making meaningful links to our History topic.

Our **Maths** lessons will focus on number and place value, telling the time, and developing confidence with fractions. We'll be using practical resources and real-life examples to help children secure key concepts and apply their learning in different ways.

In **Science**, we will continue exploring **Evolution, with a new focus on 'Adaptations'**. We'll be investigating how living things have changed over time and exploring how certain characteristics are passed from one generation to the next. This unit always sparks great curiosity and encourages thoughtful discussion.

Our **PSHE** sessions will centre around "Me and My Relationships", where we'll be focusing on building a strong, supportive group of learners, who share, take turns and react kindly to one another. We'll spend time thinking about how we communicate, how we treat others, and how we work together as both learners and friends.

In **Computing**, we'll begin the year with an introduction to computer science. Children will start to explore how computers follow instructions and will begin developing their understanding of simple programming. Further to this we will continue to develop our word processing skills and navigating word, excel and google docs so that we can better present our findings and finished work.

Our **History** topic, "The Stone Age to the Iron Age", ties in nicely with our English texts. We'll be looking at how people lived, worked, and evolved during these time periods, and what we can learn from their way of life. This will be brought to life even further through visits to local museums, and we are hoping to arrange a workshop in school to give the children a hands-on experience of life in prehistoric Britain.

In **Art**, we'll be learning about our class artist, Henri **Matisse**. Children will explore his bold, colourful style and will have the chance to create their own artwork inspired by his use of bright colours, playful themes, expressive shapes and mediterranean themes through the use of collage. We'll be using our own representations of Matisse's work as a fun and creative way to start the year.

PE will be delivered by **Mr Heap** during session 3 on **Thursdays**. We ask that you send your child in with a change of kit on this day, or alternatively on Mondays so that it is available to them throughout the week.

We're really excited for the term ahead and can't wait to see the progress the children will make. If you have any questions, or if there's anything you'd like to share with us about your child as we begin the year, please feel free to get in touch. Thank you for your continued support; we're looking forward to a fantastic year in **Matisse Class**.

Warm

Mr Jeffries; Matisse class – Northern House Academy

regards,



**Northern House
Academy**

Northern House Academy, South Parade, Summertown, Oxford OX2 7JN • Tel: 01865 557004