

Curriculum News - Spring 1 - Year 3/4

Writing

In our writing sessions this half term, we will begin by exploring the text 'Wolves in the Wall' by Neil Gaiman. The children will use role play and drama to imagine they are the central character in the story experiencing strange noises from the walls. They will then develop their descriptive writing, creating word banks for the feeling of fear. The children will then plan, compose and edit their own narrative based on the text, choosing their own animal character that might be hiding somewhere in the house.



We will then move on to instruction writing linked to our DT topic 'bread'. The children will learn the features of the genre and how to apply imperative verbs to make instructions clear and concise.

Maths - Year 3



We will start the half term by continuing to develop our multiplication and division knowledge. The children will begin by exploring multiples of 10. They will then learn to multiply and divide a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number.

The children will then develop their understanding of length and perimeter. They will learn to measure in metres, centimetres and millimetres and add, subtract and compare lengths.

Maths - Year 4



We will start the half term by continuing to develop our multiplication and division knowledge. The children will learn to multiply and divide by 10 and 100, then move on to multiplying and dividing 3-digit numbers by a 1-digit number.

The children will then develop their understanding of length and perimeter. They will learn to measure in kilometres and metres and to calculate the perimeter of rectilinear shapes and polygons.

Maths - Videos of topics to be covered for the week will be posted on Chestnut and Maple Google Classrooms. If you would like the worksheets that go alongside the videos please speak to one of the Year 3/4 team and we will give you copies. These worksheets are optional and we do not expect the children to complete all the questions, rather 'dip in and out' of the questions they would like to have a go at to improve their understanding and fluency.

Science

Fossils

The children will learn and investigate how fossils are formed. They will explore a range of fossils and predict what the animal might have looked like based on the fossil left behind.

Soils

The children will develop their understanding of different soils, their properties and how they are formed. They will plan a comparative test to explore the absorbency of different soil types.

Light

The children will group and sort a range of light sources. They will explore how to protect their eyes from the sun. The children will identify whether an object is translucent, opaque or transparent and will plan a fair test investigation.

Computing

Sound stories

This unit introduces children to 2Cast, an audio recording tool in Purple Mash. Children will explore the features of effective audio books and work as a team to script, record and edit their own. They will learn to -

- understand what makes audiobooks effective and identify the key features that make them engaging.
- plan and write a script for an engaging audiobook.
- record clear narration and add sound effects to an audiobook.
- edit, improve and finalise an audiobook using recording and sound design tools.



DT

Making Bread

This topic will enable the children to learn how bread from around the world can contribute to a healthy, varied diet. The children will also learn more about where their food comes from, how different ingredients are produced (e.g. flour), and use research and tasting to plan and make bread safely and hygienically. Finally, the children will bake their designed bread and bring home a sample for you to try!



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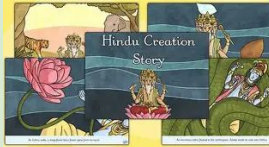
Jigsaw

This half term our theme will be 'dreams and goals'. The children will explore what it means to face a challenge and recognise the importance of staying motivated even when things might feel tricky. They will then spend time thinking about their own dreams and goals and how these can be achieved even when faced with obstacles. Finally, the children will learn the importance of sharing their own successes with others.



RE

This half term the children will learn all about Creation. They will focus on the Christian and Hindu creation stories. The children will discuss the similarities and differences, understand the value of the stories and express what creation means to them



Music



Pentatonic Melodies

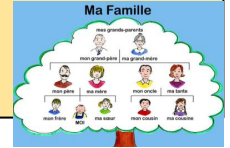


This half term the children will be exploring and developing their knowledge of pentatonic melodies linked to the theme of Chinese New Year. The children will -

- accurately notate and play a pentatonic melody.
- play their part in a composition confidently.
- work as a group to perform a piece of music.

French-

In this topic the children will learn how to use the nouns and articles/determiners for family members in French. They will practice introducing family members in French, using 'il/elle s'appelle (he/she is called). They will then use larger French numbers to describe their families ages.



PE

In indoor PE, the children will be creating their very own Egyptian dance. They will create a dance in small groups, and begin to evaluate and give feedback on performances. The children will be introduced to key elements of their dances including levels, unison, canon, formations, pathways and energy.



In outdoor PE, the children will be developing their netball skills. They will practise receiving and passing the ball. The children will perform a stride stop with control, dodging into a space and marking their partner.



History - Egyptians

This term, the children will be stepping back in time to explore everyday life in **Ancient Egypt**. They will learn how ordinary people lived, including what they wore, the food they ate, the jobs they did, and how the River Nile shaped daily life. Through hands-on activities and lively discussions, the children will discover that Ancient Egypt was not just about pyramids and pharaohs, but a fascinating civilisation full of traditions, skills, and stories that are still remembered today.

Home Learning



Spellings

Please keep practising the weekly spellings. *Little and often is the most effective way.*

Reading book

Please share as many times as possible to develop fluent reading. It is expected that your child will read to you at least 3 times a week.

If your child is reading 'Reading Squad' or Reading Fluency books, please write a comment on the reading sheet so we can celebrate in school! *Their reading fluency book should be kept safe in the plastic folder that was provided please.*

Your child's reading log can be used to record your child's colour banded book or any other books that they have read to you at home.

Maths: TTRS

Please log on **every week** and work through the challenges so as to become fluent in the recall of the times tables facts rather than needing to work the answer out. Little and often is the best way to commit these facts to your long term memory. Knowing the times tables (and their associated division facts) immensely supports mathematical learning and understanding and those children who have a strong grasp of them tend to be more self-assured when learning new concepts.



Maths

-App - 1 minute Maths White Rose
-Numbots



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Purple Mash

This supports our computing curriculum. Children have a log in if they would like to use the programs on this website and if they would like to complete any 2Dos set. Please ask if you would like a copy of your login details.

OPTIONAL extra home learning.

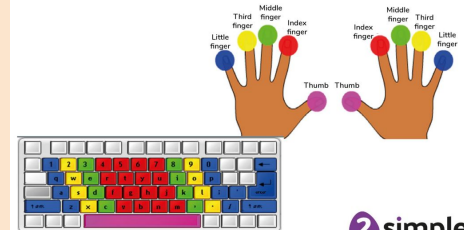
It would be great if your child could learn basic touch typing skills. If you have access to a laptop with a keyboard, please have a go at working through the Purple Mash 'touch typing' challenges that will be put into your 2Dos.

They will be progressive and we will post a few new challenges each week over the course of the half term. We look forward to seeing your 'whizzy' typing skills.

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Fingers and the keyboard

Look at the colours so you can work out which finger to use when you type a key



Spelling tests



Children in KS2 will now be following the 'Spelling Shed' spelling scheme, after they have completed their 'Little Wandle' phonics programme.

Each Tuesday, the children will bring home their focus spellings, which they have been learning in class. Your child will need to practise and learn these words as part of their home learning. They will also have some suggested activities which will support their learning of these words.

Your child will come home with their results, please praise those words spelt correctly. For any incorrect words, look at where the error was made, correct it and keep practising that word too.

Bookbags

Please can the children bring their book bag into school every day. Their reading fluency book (if relevant), colour banded book, library book and reading log should be in their book bag every day.

Children can bring in their own snack for playtime which should be a piece of fruit or vegetable.



Please can we also remind you that only water should be in their water bottles and please can your child bring in a water bottle every day.



Dates for your diary:



Forest Schools - Year 3 will join Mrs Buckmaster on a Friday afternoon for 'Forest Schools' outdoor learning.

Home learning club

Mrs Stroud will be running a home learning club on a Friday lunchtime, which will be an opportunity for children to come along and complete any of their home learning that has been set, should they wish to. This is ideal if they find it tricky to do at home or if during one week they've been particularly busy. Your child might like to come along and have a go at some of the 'Touch Typing' challenges if access to a keyboard at home is tricky **or** to practise their times tables.

We really appreciate your continued support.