

Writing

In English this term, the children will use the Pixar short film *Wish Granter* as a stimulus for their writing. They will develop their descriptive writing skills by exploring characters, settings and emotions, before writing their own engaging recount based on the film.

The class will also study the poem *It Starts with a Seed* by Laura Knowles. Inspired by her beautiful, nature-focused writing style, the children will create their own spring-themed poems, using rich vocabulary and vivid imagery to bring their ideas to life.



Maths - Year 3

White Rose
EDUCATION

At the beginning of the half term the children will continue to develop their understanding of calculating perimeter.

The children will then learn about fractions. They will use diagrams to identify how many equal parts a shape has been divided into and will begin to think about how many more parts are needed to make a whole.

The children will also learn how to use the denominator to understand how many equal parts a whole has been split into, building a strong foundation for their future learning in fractions.

Maths - Year 4

White Rose
EDUCATION

The children will start the half term by learning about **fractions**. They will learn to compare and order mixed numbers, understand improper fractions and to convert mixed numbers to improper fractions. They will find equivalent fractions and solve calculations of mixed numbers involving addition and subtraction.

The children will then start their learning about **decimals**. They will learn about tenths and hundredths as decimals and divide a 1 and 2-digit number by 10 and 100. They will use place value charts to support their learning.

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

Light

The children will group and sort a range of light sources. They will learn about the harmful effects of the sun and explore how to best protect their eyes from the sun. The children will understand that light travels in a straight line and identify that we are able to see an object because light reflects off it, enters our eyes, and the brain processes this information.

The children will then move onto to exploring whether an object is translucent, opaque or transparent. They will use and apply this knowledge to investigate and identify objects which cast the clearest and most defined shadows.

Finally, the children will plan a fair test investigation to answer this enquiry question - how does the distance between the light source and the object affect the size of a shadow?

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.

ART

In this unit, the children will be learning about the artwork of illustrators Joanna Basford and Vanessa Stone. They will explore each artist's unique style and use their work as inspiration.

The children will experiment with a range of artistic techniques, developing their ability to respond imaginatively to what they observe. They will also explore the art of Zen doodling, describing and creating a variety of detailed patterns and marks.

In addition, the class will discuss and create paper art collages, learning how different materials, textures and layering techniques can be combined to produce striking pieces of artwork.



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



In RE this half term we will be thinking about the concept of 'ritual' linked to the Paschal candle. The children will develop their understanding of what a ritual is, explore how Christians use the Paschal candle within rituals at Easter time and think about how rituals affect their own lives.

Music

Creating compositions in response to an animation (Mountains)



In Music this term, the children will be developing their listening and performance skills. They will explore how different pieces of music make them feel and practise expressing these ideas clearly.

The children will create actions and movements to reflect different sections of music, thinking carefully about how sound can inspire performance. They will also work together to play in time, showing awareness of one another's parts and beginning to consider dynamics such as volume and expression.

As part of their learning, the children will compose and perform melodies and rhythms to accompany sections of animation, using music creatively to enhance mood and storytelling.

French

In this unit pupils will learn the 4 seasons of the year along with a key feature for each season in French. By the end of the unit pupils will have the skills and knowledge to say which is their favourite season and why.



PE Kwik Cricket & Tag rugby

This half term in PE, the children will be developing their Kwik Cricket skills. They will practise stopping the ball with accuracy and control, as well as improving their throwing techniques using both underarm and overarm actions. The children will also learn how to hold the bat correctly and develop their striking skills, building confidence and coordination through team games and activities.

In Tag rugby this term, the children will develop their ball skills, learning how to hold the ball correctly while moving with control and confidence. They will practise passing the ball sideways and backwards as part of team play, working together to score a try. Alongside developing their understanding of the rules of the game, the children will continue to build important teamwork skills, including cooperation, resilience and the ability to win and lose graciously.



Geography - Madagascar

In this unit, the children will be exploring the diverse landscapes found in the country of Madagascar, identifying where these different environments are located and what makes each one unique. They will compare these landscapes with those found in the UK, discussing similarities and differences.

The children will also learn about Madagascar's climate and how it varies across the country. As part of their learning, they will investigate the animals that live there, exploring their habitats and how they are specially adapted to their environment.



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.

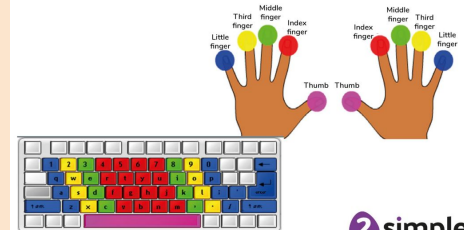
It would be great if your child could learn basic touch typing skills. If you have access to a laptop with a keyboard, please have a go at working through the Purple Mash 'touch typing' challenges that will be put into your 2Dos.

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.

**purple
mash**

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.

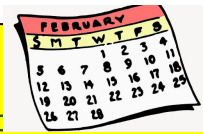
Children can bring in their own snack for playtime which should be a piece of fruit or vegetable.



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 4 will join Mrs Bue on Friday afternoon for 'Forest Schools' outdoor learning.

Book Week - Monday 2nd - Friday 6th March

The children will enjoy a wide range of exciting activities throughout the week, including a visit from a published author and a special surprise guest who will read to them. There will also be plenty of opportunities for the children to discuss the books they've read, share their thoughts, and recommend their favourites to one another.

World Book Day - Thursday 5th March

Work Sharing - Wednesday 4th March: 3pm - 3.30pm

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.