



Spring Curriculum Newsletter

Key Dates and Important messages

- The pupils will receive homework each week which will comprise Spelling, Maths and Reading. We expect the children to complete homework on time with good presentation. Homework is handed out every Friday and is due in on the following Wednesday; please let us know if you have any problems with the homework - we will be happy to help.
- All children should be reading every day at home for approximately 20 minutes. Reading records need to be signed by an adult to confirm this has been done.
- Enquiry homework is a choice of 3 pieces from a selection intended to be completed over a longer time during term and half-term holidays.
- Please make sure that all school uniform is clearly labelled with your child's first and second name. Can you please ensure that your child has their full P.E. kit in school at all times. Swimming will start for Year 5 after half term. More details will be sent out nearer the time.
- Trips/events: a visit from the Wonderdome for Enquiry 31st January

Talk for Writing

We are focusing on the legend of Beowulf. This is a traditional adventure story from Scandinavia which will enable the children to create vivid descriptions and powerful action scenes.

How you can help

Encourage your children to use precise, appropriate verbs and adjectives. Eg. Not jump, when they leap or pounce. Not bad when it's vile or monstrous.

Maths Mastery

In Spring term, we will be covering fractions, decimals, percentages and angles as well as our daily Maths Meet sessions on all areas of Maths.

How you can help

Please ensure your child learns their timetables as this will help them in all areas of Maths. Any real life scenarios will also help e.g. adding up the shopping, working out the time until...

Reading

Our half term focus is inference, where you use clues in the text and combine this with knowledge of the world. For example, the character is crying and usually you cry when you are sad so something bad has happened to the character.

How you can help

Point out inferences in everyday life.

Enquiry curriculum

Our Enquiry question is: How can humans adapt to living without Earth? This question will explore Earth and Space, Forces and Materials in Science. This will be taught through model-making, presentations and science experiments developing our Working Scientifically skills.

How you can help

Look out for space exploration in the news...

PSHE and RE

In RE, we are learning about Islam this term.

We are delighted to announce that our school has been invited to take part in an exciting new initiative that aims to improve the resilience of our children.

The 'Choices' programme has been specifically created for Year 5 pupils. It aims to strengthen pupils' own sense of identity while raising awareness of the influences around them, and has been proven to help build resilience in a range of situations. During the programme, pupils will explore how they make choices, what influences those choices and how to take greater responsibility for keeping themselves safe. The programme will be taught for an hour once a week, the sessions will be rich in discussion, debate and self-reflection.

Our school development priorities

Reading



This year we are continuing to focus on reading, ensuring our children are the best readers they can be. As you know, reading is a vital skill for our children to develop and it ensures their success in all other areas of the curriculum. This term we are focusing on developing children's inference in reading. They will read a range of challenging texts and will have opportunities to enjoy reading and share their favourite books. We are developing children's confidence through drama and discussion, encouraging them to share their views and opinions. At home, your child should be reading every day. If they find reading difficult, you can encourage them to use their Fred talk to sound out words. Children benefit from having good reading models, so if you are able to read aloud to your child it will benefit their reading skills. It is useful to question your child about what they are reading. If you would like more guidance on this, talk to your child's teacher and refer to the reading list which has been sent home. We are also encouraging children to explore different books and enjoy their reading. Take some time to visit the library and explore different texts, such as non-fiction, novels, picture books, graphic novels and magazines.

Health and well-being As you are aware, we as a school are committed in developing our children to not only become lifelong learners but people who are healthy both in mind and body. For this reason, we have now agreed to be part of a programme called 'Active Movement', which is focussed on encouraging children to be just a little bit more active in the day, such as stand up to answer, move around the class when saying their times tables and just be a little bit more active as part of their everyday lessons. In addition to this children will be going on walks around the school (you will see the posters around the school) and enjoying the lovely site we have. As well as exercising, it is imperative we teach our children how to eat healthily, as habits are formed very early in life. Hence we have put together a healthy eating policy which can be accessed on the school website or from the school office. We talk to children about their mental well-being in school and have worry boxes for them to share their anxieties or concerns with their teachers. To help your children at home, encourage your children to share what they did at school, any concerns they had or things they are excited about.



Problem solving

Children spend every day in school going over some of their times table and in addition to their normal maths lesson the children have a maths meet, in which we share and recap previous learning practising and refining skills which have already been taught. This daily revisit enables the muscle memory to remember the mathematical concepts and become embedded. Timetables are something which will be remembered if you practise daily. You can do this through games, reciting, different computer apps or songs such as Percy Parker.

To enable your children to become problem solvers, why not give them real –life problems to solve where they can practise and apply their maths learning. For example asking them to work out how many minutes or hours till the bus arrives, the change given in the shop, how many ingredients you need if you double the quantity.

Here are some links you can go on to help you <http://uk.mathletics.com/> and <https://www.mymaths.co.uk/>

