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Headteacher: Mr Peter Allen



Year 2 Spring Term 2023 Curriculum Letter

Dear Parents/Carers,
Happy New Year! We are looking forward to working with you and your children during this term.

Topic Focus	Castles
Subject	Main Learning Focus
English	<p><u>Spring 1:</u></p> <p>Narrative unit – ‘Jack and the Beanstalk’ by Anna Milbourne. We will be exploring alternative versions of the story before writing our own version of this traditional tale.</p> <p>Poetry - We will be writing our own list poems based on ‘The Magic Box’ by Kit Wright.</p> <p><u>Spring 2:</u></p> <p>Narrative unit - ‘The Knight and the Dragon’ by Tomie DePaola. The text in this story slowly disappears! So we will be “helping the author” and writing the remainder of this story ourselves.</p> <p>Non-fiction unit - We will be exploring instructions with different structures and writing our own instructions for ‘How to Catch a Dragon’</p>
Spellings	<p>Spring 1-</p> <p>the /j/ phoneme spelt ‘dge’</p> <p>the /j/ phoneme spelt ‘ge’ or ‘g’</p> <p>the /s/ phoneme spelt ‘c’</p> <p>the /or/ phoneme spelt a before ‘l’ and ‘ll’</p> <p>the /u/ phoneme spelt ‘o’</p> <p>Spring 2 -</p> <p>-ment, -ness, suffixes</p> <p>-less, -ful suffixes</p> <p>-ly suffix</p> <p>-tion (station, fiction)</p> <p>We will also be practising spelling the year 2 common exception words.</p>
Maths	<p>Multiplication and division – we will make equal groups and arrays to explore multiplication, introduce the ‘x’ sign and begin learning the 2x, 5x, 10x tables, the children will also explore division by grouping and sharing and learn to divide by 2,5 and 10</p>

	<p>Measures – length. We will work practically using a variety of different measuring equipment to carefully measure, order and compare length. We will also apply our addition and subtraction skills in word problems associated with length.</p> <p>Measures – Money – count money pounds and pence, using notes and coins, making the same amount in different ways, compare amounts of money, calculating amounts of money, finding change.</p> <p>Measures – Capacity and Mass – measure in grams and kilograms, compare mass and volumes, measure in millilitres and litres, word problems using mass and volume to revise the four number operations.</p>
Science	<p>Uses of materials. In this unit we will name, identify, and hunt for everyday materials and discuss their properties. We will identify suitable and unsuitable materials for different objects and will be able to explain why. We will learn what absorbency means and explore the absorbency of different types of materials. We will examine different ways to record results and select an appropriate way to record the results of an investigation.</p> <p>Materials – changing shape. In this unit we will learn that the shape of materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting, and stretching. We will identify how each action affects the material.</p> <p>Working Scientifically, we will investigate how materials can be grouped and we will have the opportunity to perform simple tests such as to find the most stretchy material.</p>
RE	<p>What makes a church a special place for Christian People? This topic will explore what makes a place special and how we should show respect when visiting someone's special place. We will then look at the different elements that are consistent in Christian churches and we will learn about what happens in a church.</p> <p>What do Christian stories tell us? In this unit we will be engaging with some of the teachings of Christianity by experiencing the stories and key messages behind them.</p>
Computing	<p>Making Music – using a computer as a tool to explore rhythms and melodies, before creating a musical composition.</p> <p>Programming Quizzes – designing algorithms and programs, that use events to trigger sequences of code to make an interactive quiz.</p>
PSHE	<p>Diversity and Community During this unit we will help to develop our sense of personal identity and self-worth and think about how to consider and respect the needs and views of others. We will learn about different groups and cultures within our class community and about the importance of identifying and challenging stereotypes.</p> <p>Financial Capability During this unit we will explore how we can earn, spend and save money. We will look at effective ways to manage money and how wants and needs can impact on our choices.</p> <p>Drug Education We will learn how to stay safe around medicines and household substances. We will focus on the positive uses of medicines and important roles that carers and health professionals have in helping us to use medicines safely.</p>
Art and DT	<p>Drawing – In this unit we will be exploring how pencil can be used to create tone and texture. We are looking at how a range of artists use tone and texture in their work to create objects</p>

	<p>which look 3-D. To link with our castle topic, the children will be drawing and shading a coat of arms to represent themselves as their final piece.</p> <p>DT - Freestanding Structures.</p> <p>In this unit we will be exploring freestanding structures. We will be evaluating existing products and investigating how structures can be made stronger. Then, we will use what we have learnt to design and make a freestanding throne that can hold a weight.</p>
History and Geography	<p>Castles and castle life.</p> <p>We will be finding out about William the Conqueror (a significant individual) and the Battle of Hastings - 1066 (an event beyond living memory of national importance). We will look at the events leading up to the battle, what happened during the battle and how William won. We will find out about motte and bailey castles – how they were built, where they were built (linking in to geographical map work) and also how these castles changed and developed over time. We will look at marking these events on a timeline, to help the children gain a sense of chronology.</p> <p>We will also explore castle life in the Middle Ages – finding out about the pyramid of power (feudal system) and the different kinds of jobs that were available e.g. knights, blacksmiths, chaplains; we will also explore the kind of clothes people wore and the food they ate. Once the children have gained a sense of period, we will compare and contrast life in the Middle Ages to life today.</p>
Music	<p>In Spring term 1 we will be exploring different sounds with classroom instruments.</p> <p>In Spring Term 2 children will be studying the piece of music The Four Seasons by Vivaldi. We will be listening and analysing the music to see how it reflects the actual seasons. Children will be using graphic scores to annotate their ideas.</p>
PE	<p>Gymnastics- Our topic this term is called Ball, Tall, Wall, we will be exploring using the floor and apparatus, create and perform a sequence of 3–4 actions showing the contrasting shapes of ball, tall and wall.</p> <p>Dance – This term the stimulus for our dance work is – Magical Friendships.</p> <p>Fundamental Skills - Refine the skills of running successfully, changing direction on the move. Develop throwing, catching, striking and dribbling skills and play small games.</p>
Visit	History off the Page (Castles Day) and a visit to the local church.

Homework

Homework will be sent home fortnightly and we will be using the Learning Logs. For their homework children will be practising skills learnt in school. Activities will be topic based and linked to our learning in class and skills practise for Maths and Spelling. Children are also encouraged to regularly use Numbots and (after half term) TT Rockstars to keep their maths skills sharp.

Homework Set	Due Date
Friday 13 th January 2023	Wednesday 25 th January 2023
Friday 27 th January 2023	Wednesday 8 th February 2023
Friday 24 th February 2023	Wednesday 8 th March 2023
Friday 10 th March 2023	Wednesday 22 nd March 2023

Spelling

For the first part of the Spring 1 term we are trialling a new spelling scheme, Spelling Shed. We will be sending home individual Spelling Shed login details on Friday 13th January 2023. For their spellings homework we encourage the children to use the system to play the online spelling games. We have set a list of words which match the children's learning in school. As it is a trial, any feedback would be greatly appreciated.

More information on the Spellings Shed system can be found here: [Parent Guide for Spelling Shed](#)

Reading

Please encourage your child to read regularly at home. The ideal is 5 times per week. During Year 2 the children continue to progress through the colour band scheme. Some children, if ready, will progress onto the AR scheme.

We will be sending home books twice weekly on **Tuesdays** and **Fridays**. Please ensure that your child returns their books on these days. If your children finishes their book, it is good practise to repeat reading it in order to increase fluency.

Reading Diaries

Please complete the reading diaries each time you read with your child (try to complete one page per week). Your child can bring in their reading diary this year each time they return their book on Tuesdays and Fridays. When your child reads 5 times and completes a page in their reading diaries they will earn a sticker. When ten stickers have been earnt, your child will be given a reading certificate.

More information about home reading can be found in the reading diaries.

PE days/kits

Our P.E days are on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Please ensure that your child comes to school wearing their PE kit on their PE days.

Suitable PE kit - trainers, a white or blue t-shirt, dark shorts, a sweatshirt (no hoods) and jogging bottoms.

Please also remember sun cream, hats and water bottles (for hot days).

No jewellery except stud earrings and watches should be worn in school and these must be removed for all PE activities as it is no longer acceptable to use tape to cover earrings. This applies in both PE lessons and at any clubs.

We would therefore advise that children leave any earrings at home on their PE day. Any child who cannot remove their studs will be given another task to complete during the lesson. Whenever possible children should be able to remove their own jewellery before a PE lesson.

Long hair should be tied back.

Parental Help

Parental help is always greatly appreciated in school and we are looking forward to inviting you back into school as soon as we can. You will need to complete a DBS check first.

Thank you for your continued support,
KS1 Team