

12th September, 2014

Year 4 Topic Letter - Autumn Term

Dear Parents,

Outlined below is the curriculum your child is following this term. We hope that it will be of use to you when discussing school with your child and looking for ways in which you can support them at home.

English

Throughout literacy this term we will work with narrative, exploring stories with historical settings. The children will be learning how to recognise the stages of a story: the introduction, build up, climax and resolution. We will also introduce the use of paragraphs.

Our non fiction work will focus on recounts using newspapers and magazines to identify features of recount texts.

Spellings will begin with common high frequency words and will increase in difficulty according to individual ability.

Maths

All numeracy lessons will follow the new mathematics programme of study. This will include counting, partitioning and calculating. We will also secure number facts and an understanding of shape, followed by work on data handling and measure.

Throughout the autumn term we will be expecting children to revise and learn their times tables, including ordered and mixed up tables.

Mental Maths will be practised daily and incorporated into the numeracy lesson to help children develop quick calculation skills. A variety of mathematical operations are included within this.

Science

In science we will be looking at Animals including Humans. This will cover the simple functions of the digestive system; different types of teeth and food chains. We will be encouraging the correct use of scientific vocabulary where possible.

Geography

In Geography we will study local area: this will include how to read a simple map and the children will be drawing their own map. Throughout the year we will occasionally be looking at events in the news, which have a geographical bias. In the second half of the term we will be looking at how the environment around us changes using 'Windows' by Jeannie Baker.

History

In history we will be studying the Romans and their impact on Britain by looking at their influence in more detail.

Art

For art this term we will be exploring colour through a range of media. We will explore colour, pattern, shape and texture. We will also be practising observational skills when drawing and sketching. We will look at a wide range of work by different artists.

D.T.

In design and technology we will be making Pop Ups.

R.E.

This term we will be focusing on the Word of God and the Bible. There will be an introduction on Hinduism and also the Festival of Christmas.

Music

We are fortunate to be able to take part in weekly guitar lessons led by a teacher from Bird College.

P.E.

In dance this term we will develop a dance called 'Shoes'.

French

We will be learning the vocabulary associated with the calendar and developing our basic conversational French.

I.C.T.

The focus this term will be on Controlling Devices using the computer programme LOGO.

Macbeth Shakespeare Project

In collaboration with the Schools Shakespeare Festival (ssf.uk.com), children in Year 4 will be participating in an exciting cross curricular Shakespeare project this term. Activities will include art and design workshops, a visit to the Globe Theatre, the opportunity to watch a professional theatre company perform in the school hall and will culminate in a performance of Shakespeare's "Julius Caesar" at the Orchard Theatre.

Places of interest

Tate Modern
British Museum
Science Museum
Museum of London

Yours sincerely,

Miss B. Smalley
Class Teachers

Mrs. C. Coles