

Year 5 Curriculum Newsletter

This newsletter gives an overview of the content and skills we will cover during the second half of the Spring term.

Thank you very much for your continued support.

Our new topic for the term will be...

Volcanoes

English - Writing

During the second part of the Spring term, our English will be based on Harry Potter. In class we will be reading the book 'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone' and our writing will be inspired by this. We will write exciting character and setting descriptions and analyse the language that the author has used and its impact on the reader. Within the term, the children will be producing a new Hogwarts house, writing the rules and regulations for Quidditch, creating new spells and potions, write a report for a newspaper about the break in at Gringotts Bank and writing diary entries as one of the characters from the book.

Throughout the term, we will continue to teach grammar and punctuation within our English sessions. To begin with we will look at root words, prefixes and suffixes and will incorporate this within our writing. We will consider the use of passive and active voice and begin to use literary features to create effect for example alliteration, figurative language, similes, metaphors and personification.



Computing

The children will be continuing to develop their computer programming skills. They will be using Scratch to develop algorithms and problem solving skills. The children will have to drive a sprite (car) using programming blocks.

English - Reading

Within Guided Reading, the children will be reading texts related to Volcanoes and Harry Potter. The children will be given opportunities to develop their reading and comprehension skills by making predictions, clarifying parts of texts, making connections to their own experiences, the world and to other texts they have read and summarising a text or key parts of it.

Mathematics

Whilst following our new White Rose scheme in Mathematics, our main focus this term is fractions. In class we will look at the following areas:

- equivalent fractions
- converting between improper and mixed number fractions
- simplifying fractions
- adding and subtracting fractions with the same denominator
- finding fractions of amounts
- multiplying fractions by whole numbers
- solve problems related to fractions

In addition, we will also revisit the formal methods for multiplication and division and will continue with our daily Fluent in Five practice that provides various questions to develop fluency.



Science

In Science this half term, our topic is 'Material World'. Within this topic we will be considering various materials and their properties, states of matter and reversible and irreversible changes. Our science lessons will be both practical and experimental.

In some lessons, the children will be developing their ability to write up an experiment formally with guidance. During the write up we will consider the aim of the investigation, make an appropriate prediction, list the materials used, write the method that was followed, make a record of the results in tables/graphs and evaluate the results and make conclusions.



Geography

Extreme Earth is our topic for this half term. We will identify the different layers of the Earth right down to the inner core! We will be researching how Volcanoes are formed and the technical language associated with this. In addition, we will also look at the effect Volcanoes have on people's lives and the risk and benefits of living near a Volcano.

Later in the half term, we will study what causes earthquakes, tsunamis and tornadoes. We will study the effect they have on people and their lives, how scientists collect data and where and why they occur in the world.

Music

We will be listening and responding to pieces of music. The children will try to understand how writers use music to convey mood. We will compose a fanfare to be played at the opening at the Tri-Wizard Quidditch Tournament.

Art

Our Art will be linked to our class reader 'Harry Potter and the Philosophers Stone' this half term. The focus will be creating an image of Harry Potter in a Pop-Art style. We will produce a whole-class collage of Harry Potter using a variety of mediums.

Useful Information



Homework will continue to be sent home on a Thursday and should be handed in the following Tuesday. Spellings are set on a Monday and tested a week later. Please encourage your child to learn these thoroughly.

Please continue to listen to your children read at home regularly (4 times a week).

P.E

Ignite sports will be coaching both classes on a Thursday. This term will focus on 'net and wall games' (volleyball).

Please ensure that children have the correct PE kit consisting of shorts (or joggers), t-shirt and a pair of trainers suitable for outdoors in school.

The children will also have a second lesson of P.E with their class teacher, if they are not swimming, this will be on a Tuesday. Over this half term, the focus will be gymnastics.

Swimming will continue every Wednesday.

Term 4 - Mrs Redding's Class

R.E./PSHE

In R.E., we will be covering Holy week and the Easter story. We will explore the reasons behind the celebrations and sequence the events in the Easter story.

Our PSHE lessons this term are based around our British value of 'mutual respect'. We will look at this in detail and identify ways that we can demonstrate mutual respect and the importance of being respectful.