

Maths

This term we will continue to develop pictorial methods for the 4 operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division). The children will be using number lines, arrays and other diagrams and images to help them with their calculations and may begin to use more formal methods (adding 2 numbers in columns or creating a simple grid method for multiplication for example).

Their homework will continue to involve SAT style questions to complete. remember we like to see any evidence of the support you have given them or the techniques they used to solve the problems.

We will continue to work on our times tables challenges. We expect all children to be familiar with the 2, 5 and 10 times tables and many will begin to learn the 3 and 4 times tables too. Playing our online times table games are great for helping learn these.

Finally, try and incorporate maths into everyday life. Board games, helping with the shopping, recognising and drawing shapes can all help consolidate their understanding..

Reading

Our texts this term will include non fiction writing on the subject of keeping healthy and the history of castles. The children will also be reading classic children's texts by John Burningham and Jill Murphy and then at the end of the term, some books by the author Roald Dahl.

We will continue to send home a fortnightly reading homework we have been so pleased with the quality of these this year and look forward to seeing even more. Reading at home is important so please record any reading (whether from school or home books) in their diaries.

Finally, a challenge: Whenever your child is watching the television, turn on the subtitles. This will do wonders for their sight vocabulary. As they get quicker you may even find you can turn the sound off.

Year 2 Spring 2020

'Healthy Me' and 'Kings (and Queens) of the castle'.

Forest School

Our school are working towards offering Forest School, a child initiated nature-based learning experience that takes place outdoors.

Year 2 are the first year to take part. Forest School will happen every Friday afternoon and the children will need to make sure they have their outdoor gear every week. They may get cold and/or muddy so please make sure these clothes are warm and waterproof.

Writing

We start the term looking at writing letters and will be creating letters in role as Florence Nightingale. These will include subordination (if, when, that and because) and superlative or comparative adjectives (-er and -est).

We will learn about onomatopoeia (sound words) and use these to write our own version of "Peace at Last" and will use speech marks in our work inspired by "Mr Gumpy".

There will be more opportunities for non fiction writing when we create our information books about castles.

To finish the term we will use all our writing skills to create a new chapter for Roald Dahl's "The Twits".

Year 2's handwriting target is to make sure all the descenders in letters such as g, y and p hang below the line.

Humanities

We will be learning lots of history this term, starting with a study of a significant individual, Florence Nightingale.

The children will find out about her life growing up locally to us, her work during the Crimean War and how her legacy has given us the Nurses who look after us today.

After half term they will be finding out about castles and how they have developed over the past thousand years. Starting with the Bayeux Tapestry we will look at Motte and Bailey castles, Medieval and Tudor castles and finally more modern castles. We will finish our topic with a visit to Portchester Castle.

ICT

'Coding' is our first computing topic this term. Following the hour of code in December the children will learn how to write simple programs using a visual programming language. They will make their own animations and games and will introduce sound effects to these. They will even be able to log on to Purple Mash and work on them at home.

They will also use a publishing package, 2 Publish, to present their writing about castles and will be able to include pictures and diagrams. Any practice using the keyboard and finding letters quickly will help them with this.

Science

Our topic on 'Florence Nightingale' will also include lots of science learning. This will include finding out about food groups and the importance of a balanced diet, how exercise helps keep our bodies working well and all about the importance of good hygiene. Just like Florence Nightingale the children will learn how to prevent germs from being transferred between us and making us ill.

Next, the children will learn about the different materials used to build a castle. They will be finding out where these materials come from, why they are used and how their properties suit their uses. They will learn about transparency, hardness, flexibility, strength and water resistance and will be doing their own experiments to test these.

Art and Technology

This term the children will be using different techniques to create illustrations in the style of John Burningham (pen and ink) and Quentin Blake (watercolour).

They will also learn about the work of Guiseppe Archimboldo and will have a go at creating their own 'fruit' pictures.

We will give them an opportunity to try a variety of different fruits while they learn about their '5 a day' and they will use these to create their own smoothies.

Along with studying materials, the children will be making their own model castles.

PE

The children will continue to learn their multi-skills outdoors with Mr S and will have opportunities to link these to science and understand how they help strengthen our bodies. They will also have an opportunity to develop their strength, coordination and balance using the indoor apparatus through our "Real PE" scheme.

RE

We will find out why many religions have special books and why the bible is important to Christians. Our 'Open the Book' assemblies presented by the church will continue to tell these stories.. As Easter approaches we will learn about this time of the year and some of the traditions that have developed around it.