



Inspiring Curriculum Newsletter

Merlins

Summer 2024



Our Theme:

‘Time Machine’

Our Christian Values:

Caring

Commitment to Achieve

Co-operation

Fairness

Honesty

Respect



Welcome back to school! We hope you all had a wonderful Easter holiday. The children have all settled in and it's been lovely to hear about their holidays. We are all very excited to continue with our curriculum and learning we have planned this term, continuing with our Summer term topic: 'Time Machine'.

The children will engage with a WOW day where we will be having a space themed day. We hope to help NASA find some useful rocket fuel. Here is what you need to know about the curriculum, along with specific information for our class. As always, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Summer Term 2024
Our theme is 'Time Machine'
On our WOW day we will be helping NASA with our space themed day.
As part of our Exit day, we shall be creating a museum showing our learning.
Curriculum Details
English
<p>During the Summer Term, we will be linking our English closely with our History topic and using some great texts that we are sure the children will enjoy.</p> <p>We will be continuing to practice our key skills, such as using a range of punctuation and we will be using expanded noun phrases to enhance descriptions.</p> <p>We will explore an exciting range of texts such as 'Major Glad Major Dizzy' which is a very engaging picture book about the past. Our main class novel will be 'Tilly and The Time Machine' and we are sure the children will enjoy this exciting narrative. We will be using our books to help us write recounts, narratives, persuasive texts and discussion texts. We will be starting our term with developing our letter writing skills with writing a letter to NASA.</p> <p>In all of our writing purposes, we will build resilience in our learning by firstly planning aloud what we wish to write about, before writing down key ideas while exploring new vocabulary. We will be developing our editing skills to produce some excellent final pieces of work.</p> <p>We will continue to have daily reading sessions, looking at vocabulary and comprehension, and discrete Phonics lessons during the mornings. Spelling and handwriting will also remain high priorities in all of our written lessons.</p>
Maths
<p>In Maths this term, we will begin by developing our knowledge of position and direction and key calculation skills. This will involve working with numbers up to 100. Then, we will progress to developing our knowledge about different shapes and will be participating in a lot of practical work around this.</p> <p>Later in the Summer term, we will be learning about measures such as length, mass and capacity. Many parts of our learning will be practical and visual as this is key to understanding Maths.</p> <p>Later in the term, we will begin to work on statistics and time.</p>

Phonics

This term we are excited to continue with our Phonics scheme in school: Little Wandle Letters and Sounds. For more information about the scheme and how to further support your child please visit: <https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

Science

Within Science, we will be learning about living things and their habitats. We will be using our scientific skills when we explore our school grounds and see what habitats we can find. We will also develop our knowledge about different habitats from around the world and how animals and plants are adapted to these.

R.E

Our topic in RE this term is based around Christianity and the children will be learning about 'Salvation' and 'Incarnation'. We will be developing our knowledge of the Holy Trinity as well as using our RE skills to link incarnation and salvation to parts of the Bible.

Music

In Music we are going to be participating in topics called 'In the Groove' and 'Reflect, Rewind and Replay'. We will develop our knowledge of rhythm, pulse and pitch and demonstrating our music skills using glockenspiels. The children will really enjoy singing and using the instruments in school.

PSHE

This year we will be continuing with the Jigsaw scheme. In this term, we will begin with a topic on 'Relationships' and after half term the unit will be 'Changing me' with some of this will be taught in year groups.

Art

In Art, we are excited about working on the topic 'Textiles and Printing'. The children will be learning different techniques such as hatching, stippling and weaving. Some of our learning will be focusing on the artist Andy Goldsworthy and we will develop knowledge about his work. The children will be sharpening their Art skills and will be getting creative by making natural art sculptures.

History

Our unit will be focused around developing knowledge of chronological order and we will be learning about key historical figures. We will be learning about different astronauts and who Christopher Columbus was and what he did. In addition, we will also be learning about Guy Fawkes and the Titanic. As historians we will be using our History skills to pose questions about the past and think carefully about historical sources we can use.

Cooking in the Curriculum

We are going to learn a range of cooking skills, such as how to stir, spread, knead and shape a range of food and ingredients. We will also begin to learn how to work safely and hygienically within a kitchen environment. We will be making a dish called 'Berried Treasure'

PE

In P.E the children will enjoy the three units: Striking and Fielding, Athletics and Swimming

Important Information

Our weekly homework, as per the [homework policy](#), will continue to be **set on Friday** and **returned on Thursday**. Children get house points for each piece of homework they complete to a good standard and we often award merits for super effort, so please encourage your child to complete their homework on time.

We set homework that links to our current learning in class, and should mostly be able to be completed independently without the need for lots of adult support (other than reading the task to them). Please ensure your child completes their homework and hands it in on time.

Our P.E days this term are **Tuesday morning and Wednesday afternoon**. The children will be doing their Swimming on a Tuesday morning.

Reading

Reading is a priority within our school and regular reading at home is proven to improve the children's academic success.

6 reasons why reading is important:

1) Improves the functioning of the brain	2) Increases Vocabulary	3) Improves theory of mind
4) Increases Knowledge	5) Sharpens Memory	6) Strengthens Writing Skills

In Key Stage One, we endeavour to change your child's reading book twice a week and ask the children to read at least four times a week at home.

Please can we ask that you aim to read your child's scheme books with them at least three times before changing the book. Research suggests that this strongly improves fluency.

Your child's books will be linked with the children's Phonics knowledge for you to practise at home. When reading a book three times with your child, please use the following structure:

Read 1: Read to your child

Read 2: Your child reads to you

Read 3: Ask questions about the text

Key Reminders:

- Please ensure that the children need a named water bottle in school every day.
- If the weather is sunny, your child will need a sunhat.
- For sun safety, we encourage that the children come to school with suncream on rather than putting it on in the school day.
- Please label jumpers and cardigans.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to approach me.

Thank you for your continued support.

Caroline Matthews