

LKS2 Newsletter

Spring 2024



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Firstly, may we wish you a very Happy New Year and extend a warm welcome back to school, after what we hope has been a wonderful Christmas break. We hope you have all had a great rest and are enjoying the start of this new term.

Below, we have outlined information regarding staffing, routines, homework as well as the curriculum activities and events planned for this Spring Term.

Teaching Staff

Year 3 - Miss Cork

Year 3/4 - Mr Cunha

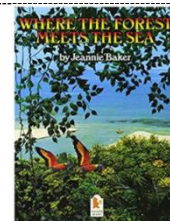
Year 4 - Mr Sutton

All classes - Mr Poole

Teaching assistant - Mrs Carney

Our Curriculum this term.

English - The children are learning about the rainforest through a variety of texts, "Where the Forest Meets the Sea" by Jeannie Baker and "The Jungle Explorer" by The Literacy Company. We will learn about which animals live in the rainforest and how the rainforest is a wonderful habitat for these creatures. The main focus will be non-chronological reports, expanding the children's vocabulary and accurate punctuation.



Maths - During the spring term, the children will now be building on their knowledge of multiplication tables to multiply 2 (and 3 digit - Year 4) numbers. This will also be applied to division problems. The children will work on finding the perimeter of shapes before using their knowledge of division to solve fractions problems including adding and subtracting fractions. Finally, we will look at decimals such as tenths and dividing 1-digit numbers by 10 and 100. Year three will also be working on mass and capacity.

Science - During science lessons, we will explore states of matter, based on observations and investigative skills. We will plan and carry out enquiries so that we can present our findings and give conclusions based on scientific evidence. We will look at how the states of matter link to our H2O topic, through the water cycle and find ways in which we can reproduce this in the classroom.

D.T. - As designers, we will build bridge like structures that we will use to cross a river. These must be strong enough to support a passing toy car.

Art - As artists we will explore pattern through colour, line and shape including repeating patterns.

Geography - Linked to our H2O topic, we will learn how a river is formed and the relevant Vocabulary such as source, mouth, meander etc. We will learn about the courses of a river and research the names and location of many famous rivers around the UK and the world. We will learn know what erosion and deposition are and how these geographical processes change rivers over time. We will also be studying the

UK, looking at the different regions, and counties in the Northwest, describing human and physical features and learning about what contour lines tell us.



RE - We will be learning about the Jewish faith, focusing on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. We will discuss how these celebrations are important to Jewish people.

ICT - In the first part of the term we will be learning about online questionnaires and the children will be applying their word processing skills to create their own surveys. They will then represent the results to their survey in the app Clips. After half term we will move on to creating our own podcasts by recording audio clips before sequencing and presenting them using keynote.



Music - As musicians, we will listen to and describe the Enigma Variations from the BBC 10 pieces using musical phrases and increasing aural memory. We will respond to this by composing simple motifs and combining these to create a piece of music. We will perform with expression an awareness of the inter-related dimensions of music.



French - In our French topic, we will be recognising the names of colours and asking questions about what your favourite colour is. We will name different animals (including pets) and talk to a partner about their pets. Later in the term we will be talking about our relatives and describe the different people that make up our family.

PSHE - We will listen to stories and make decisions about topics that are part of life. We will consider all options and choose the best outcome through discussion and stories. The children will talk about stealing, grief and medicine. All these issues will be taught in an age-appropriate way, but if you have any concerns, please speak to your child's class teacher.



We will continue with the mental and emotional wellbeing programme 'My Happy Mind'. Once a week, all children in school will continue to participate in activities linked to five modules - the brain, celebrate, appreciate, relate, and engage. Each module introduces a new set of content and habits to help children build resilience, self-esteem, and confidence.

PE sessions

A PE/Games kit is required on the following days.

Monday	Outdoor games	Year 4
Tuesday	Outdoor games	Year 3
Thursday	Outdoor games	Year 3/4
Friday	Indoor PE	All classes



Outdoor - Basketball, Tennis
Indoor - Dance, Gymnastics

PE kit - house t-shirt, dark jogging bottoms. (This can be left in school in a named bag.)

Games kit - dark jogging bottoms, house T-shirt, trainers, and spare socks. A carrier bag is useful to bring this occasionally wet and dirty kit home.

For safety reasons, please ensure children have long hair tied back and any earrings that cannot be removed will be covered with tape.

Exciting upcoming events to look out for.

- River study visit to Styal
- Gardening club for year 3 and 4.
- E-Safety Day
- Year 4 Residential meeting.
- World Book Day



Lost Property

Please add names to all your children's clothing and equipment so that if lost they can be returned to them.

Homework

Spelling homework will be issued at the start of the term with all the corresponding weeks included. Other option homework will be allocated at the start of the term with a selection of activities and tasks for the children to complete, should they wish to.

Maths' homework will continue to be based on Times Tables Rockstars. The children's fluency with their times tables up to 12×12 and the associated divisions ($12 \times 12 = 144$, $144 \div 12 = 12$) is essential for them to be able to access most of the math's curriculum. Year 4 children must know all their times tables, whereas the year 3s should know 2x, 3x, 4, 5x, 8x and 10x tables. The year 4 children will have their multiplication check in the summer term.

Teachers expect children to take around twenty minutes for each English/topic and maths homework to be completed. If your child is struggling to complete the allocated piece within this time, please let us know. We do understand that many children take part in activities outside school, and this is the reason we have tried to provide a fair and reasonable system so that children can continue to enjoy these clubs without too much homework pressure.

In addition, we would expect children to read on a regular basis. We still believe it is a positive and beneficial exercise for children to read aloud to parents/ grandparents/older brothers and sisters at home. Even at this stage, it is extremely helpful if you encourage discussion about the plot, characters and what may happen in the story.

Accelerated Reading

As part of our continued commitment to raising standards and progress in reading, all pupils have a reading book, which is part of the Accelerated Reading Scheme. Accelerated Reading is a scheme which levels all reading books within school. Once your child has read their book, they will be able to take an online quiz which will consolidate their understanding of the text. All children will be issued with their own login so that they can complete the quiz related to their book and also monitor their progress and targets. Within lessons, children will be given targets and rewards to maintain their focus and continue to engage their love of reading. Look out for your child's new bookmark and if there are any problems, please let us know.



Our School Rule

We should smile, be friendly and care for one another
Be well mannered and polite
Speak the truth
Be fair
Treat each other with respect and how you would like to be treated
Be the best you can be

School Values



Naturally, we expect a high standard of behaviour and attitude as it is important to achieve a happy and purposeful classroom.

Communication:

As always you are welcome to contact the school, via email, dojo, phone call, if you have any questions or queries.



If you feel that you could offer help in school in any way, for example by hearing children read, enriching a topic or displays please do get in touch.

Finally, we would like to thank you for your continued support and encouragement and look forward working with you all in 2024.

Mr Sutton, Mr Cunha, Miss Cork, Mr Poole and Mrs Carney.
(LKS2 team)