

LKS2 Newsletter

Spring 2022



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 - Mrs Mellor
Miss Tyrrell
Year 3/4 - Mr Cunha
Mrs Bailey (Teaching assistant)
Year 4 - Miss Cork

Our Curriculum this term.

English - This term, we will use 'Flotsam' as inspiration for our own H2O narrative. We will write fiction texts using structured paragraphs. The children will also compose poetry, using imagery and creative presentation features to bring to life an area of our Water Topic, based on 'Once upon a Raindrop'. As a class, we will be sharing and examining the text, 'the Rhythm of the Rain' and will discuss the writer's intent, language choices, character and plot. We will also write non-fiction texts based on the journey of a river and the water cycle. Grammar, punctuation and spelling will continue to be an important aspect of all pieces of work. For World Book Day, we will study and take inspiration from the text 'Where the Wild Things Are'.



Maths - We will continue to follow the sequence within our maths mastery programme - 'Power Maths'. Power Maths is a whole class mastery programme designed to spark curiosity and excitement and help teachers nurture confidence in maths. At the heart of Power Maths is the belief that all children can achieve. It's built around a child-centred lesson design that models and embeds a growth mind-set approach to maths and develop skills in fluency, reasoning, investigation and problem solving.

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.



Geography - Linked to our H2O topic, we will learn how a river is formed and the associated vocabulary. We will learn about the courses of a river and research the names and location of many famous rivers in the UK and the world. We will learn how what erosion and deposition are in relation to rivers and why many cities are situated next to a river.



Art - As Artists, we will create paintings in the style of Georges Seurat. We are going to explore his style and the technique of pointillism, linking this to water.

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

RE - We will look at Christian Faith and think about the concepts of miracles related to Jesus. We will then study Easter and think about the days leading up to Easter Sunday.

ICT - We will design our own inventions to address the real world water issues such as the plastic pollution of the oceans or the lack of clean drinking water in developing countries. Once these designs are complete, we will create our own electronic surveys. These will then be completed in class to assess and evaluate the opinions of others about our inventions.

French - In our French topic, we will learn to count numbers to thirty. We will then learn to say the days of the week and how to describe our day.



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.

Year 3 will continue their Friday glockenspiel lesson with Mrs Mellor.

PSHE/Wellbeing- We will consider water as our most valuable resource in life

Other Events



4th February - Number Day - NSPCC. This is always a great way to promote Maths in school

3rd or 4th February - DRUHM workshop to promote Mental Health Week. This is a creative and fun filled drumming session. It encompasses different areas of the curriculum and focusses on making everyone feel happier, healthier, fitter and stronger. (More information to follow soon)

3rd March - World Book Day - The children will be involved in a variety of fun and inspiring activities designed to encourage a love of reading.

10th or 11th March - visit to Styal. LKS2 will be visiting the river at Styal, linking this to our H2O topic, learning about the river, walking along the river as well as taking part in pond dipping activities. (Look out for a letter next week)

14th March - We are looking forward to the whole school taking part in National Science Week which will be focussed around the theme 'Growth'. During the week. There will be exciting enrichment activities for all the children. (More details to follow)

PE sessions

ASM will continue to support our PE sessions and we will use the daily mile track so PE sessions will be outside as much as possible. Children should come to school ready to participate in PE sessions on their allocated days. Therefore, on the days that they will be having PE, children should come to school dressed in tracksuit bottoms, trainers, team coloured sport shirt and school sweatshirt. For safety reasons, please ensure children have long hair tied back and any earrings, which cannot be removed, to be covered with tape.

Class	Days to wear PE kit
Mrs Mellor	Tuesday & Thursday
Mr Cunha	Monday & Tuesday
Miss Cork	Tuesday & Wednesday



Lost Property

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

Homework

Maths and English/topic homework will usually be issued on Fridays on Google Classroom. We would like this to be completed and submitted by the following Wednesday.

Maths homework will be issued online using the Mathletics website. Teachers will be reminding children how to access their homework and issue log-in details next week. In English/topic, children will receive homework to support tasks completed in class.

He/she will also receive a spelling book with lists that should be learnt weekly. Children should spend an additional 20 minutes per week on these spelling tasks.



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 and again this should be recorded in planners. 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.

Children have 'Homework Planners' to record their homework and teachers will help your child to write details and dates. Please check planners regularly throughout the week and sign them each weekend.

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 login and if there are any problems please do let us know.



Working from home

If your child is absent from school and requires work, they can continue with Power Maths and will be directed to English using the 'Oak Academy' website. Topic lessons can be found on google classroom or will be emailed.

Tattenhall Meeting

Later this year, we are hoping that the **Year 4** children embark on their first residential trip. We will be staying at a centre, in the village of Tattenhall. The focus of the trip is teamwork and independence, while linking the activities to survival in the outback.

A meeting will be held later this term, in which Mrs Mellor will share details about this exciting excursion – look out for more information regarding this.



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.



Our School Rule

We should smile and be friendly, be well-mannered and polite, speak the truth, be fair, treat each other well and with respect.

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

Finally we would like to thank you for your continued support and encouragement and we look forward to this new academic year.

Keep safe and well,

Abi Mellor, Scarlett Tyrrell, Michael Cunha, Rosie Cork, Kath Bailey, Barbara Chadwick,
(LKS2 team).