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Together we *learn, grow* and *dream*

Half-Termly Curriculum Snapshot

Magpies - Spring 2

Our Topic for this Half-Term: How do maps help us make sense of a changing world?

Key Learning Highlights

Here's a glimpse into the exciting learning journey your child will embark on this half-term, covering all aspects of the National Curriculum:

 English:

- What we're reading: The Selfish Giant by Oscar Wilde
- What we're writing: Setting descriptions, diaries, guides for humans about the world of giants and final outcome of writing a story from a different viewpoint focusing on feelings and morals throughout the text.
- Key skills: developing noun phrases to convey complicated information concisely, using relative clauses to give more information, using passive verbs to mark relationships of time and cause, developing sentences with subordinate clauses.

 Mathematics:

- Main topics: Fractions, Decimals and Percentages
- Topics covered: Multiplying a fraction by an integer, calculate a fraction of an amount, find equivalent fractions and decimals (tenths and hundredths), order and compare decimal numbers up to 3 decimal places, round to the nearest whole number and to 1 decimal place and understand percentages as fraction and decimals.

 Science:

- Main topics: Light
- Key questions: Where does light come from? How do eyes work? How do mirrors reflect light?
- Engaging Activities: Investigations on how shadows can change shape and size, exploring with mirrors how light can be reflected.
- Prior Learning Connection: Light (Y3/4)



 Geography: How do maps help us make sense of a changing world?

- Big Ideas: To look at OS maps and understand the symbols, describe locations using the eight points of a compass, locate points using six-figure grid references, understand what contour lines are and why they are used on a map.
- Engaging Activities: Outdoor activities using our orienteering course, looking at local maps to gain an understanding of the local area.
- Prior Learning Connection: Understanding of local area (Y1/2) Compass points and four-figure grid references (Y3/4)

 Art & Design:

- Focus: Drawing
- Key Skills: using a variety of techniques to add effects eg. shadows, reflection, hatching and cross-hatching and to show perspective in drawings.

 Music:

- Focus: You've Got A Friend by Carole King
- Key Skills: Listen and appraise songs by Carole King, perform the song.

 Physical Education (PE): **WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY**

Focus: Orienteering

- Key Skills: knowing how to use a compass, being able to read a map quickly, work together as a team and be strategic with route planning.

 Computing:

- Focus: Spreadsheets
- Key Skills: organising data into columns and rows; introduction to formulas and applying formulas to a range of cells; use spreadsheets to plan an event and answer questions.

 Religious Education (RE):

- Focus: Which beliefs do we find hard to understand in Christianity?
- Key Skills: learning about the importance of forgiveness, understanding the concept of the Holy Trinity, describe the concepts of Saviour, Messiah and Emmanuel and learn how we celebrate Christmas and Easter around the world.

 Relationships & Health Education (RHE) & PSHE: HeartSmart & No Outsiders

- Focus: This half-term, we will be continuing our work with HeartSmart, focusing on 'Don't Hold On to What's Wrong'
- Key Learning: developing strategies to resolve conflict and disputes, the value of forgiving for their own benefit, tone and body language can communicate more than words, what makes a trustworthy friend and when is it ok to break a confidence
- We will also integrate our No Outsiders programme, promoting inclusivity, celebrating

diversity, and ensuring every child feels valued and belongs within our school family.

- Key No Outsiders text: The boys-Lauren Ace and Jenny Løvlie
- Key No Outsiders learning: To explore friendships

Supporting Learning at Home

1 2
3 4

Mathematics

- **Fractional Feasts (Multiplying Fractions):** If a recipe for one person requires $\frac{1}{4}$ of a bag of pasta, how much do you need for 5 people? Use physical items (like measuring cups) to show that $\frac{1}{4} \times 5 = \frac{5}{4}$, or $1\frac{1}{4}$.
- **The Decanting Challenge (Fractions of Amounts):** Grab a 1-liter (1000ml) jug of water. Ask your child to pour out $\frac{3}{8}$ of it into glasses. They'll need to divide 1000 by 8, then multiply by 3.

Price Comparisons (Ordering Decimals): Gather items from the pantry and write "new" prices on sticky notes using three decimal places (e.g., £1.450, £1.405, £1.455). Ask them to arrange the items from cheapest to most expensive.

- **Decimal Long Jump:** Use a measuring tape to record three jumps to three decimal places (e.g., 1.452m).
- **Challenge:** Compare the results. Who jumped the furthest? By how many centimeters?



Science: The Mystery of Light

- **Shadow Puppets:** Use a torch to create shadows on a wall. Move the light source closer and further away to investigate how the **size and clarity** of the shadow change.
- **Periscope DIY:** If you have two small mirrors, try to create a periscope using a cereal box to see "around corners." This demonstrates how light **reflects** at specific angles.



Geography & PE: Master Navigator

- **The Living Room Map:** Draw a "6-figure grid reference" map of your bedroom or garden. Include a key with **OS Map symbols** for furniture or plants.
- **Compass Walk:** Give a family member "blind" directions using the **eight points of a compass** (e.g., "Take three steps North-East") to reach a "treasure" in the house.



Art & Design: Perspective & Texture

- **Window Sketch:** Look out of a window and try to draw what you see using **one-point perspective**. Focus on **hatching and cross-hatching** to create shadows on buildings or trees to give them depth.

Music: Carole King Classics

- **Appraisal Session:** Listen to *You've Got A Friend*. Write a short paragraph about the **tempo** (speed) and **dynamics** (volume) of the song. How does the music make you feel compared to the lyrics?

Computing: Spreadsheet Planner

- **Party Planner:** Use a digital spreadsheet (like Google Sheets or Excel) to plan a "Dream Party." List items in rows, costs in columns, and try to use a **formula** (e.g., `=SUM(B2:B10)`) to calculate the total budget.

PSHE & RHE: HeartSmart & No Outsiders

- **The "Weight" of Grudges:** Discuss the theme "Don't Hold On to What's Wrong." Draw a "heavy backpack" and label the rocks inside with things that make us feel cross or sad. Discuss how "emptying the bag" through **forgiveness** helps us move forward.
- **The "Friendship Tree" (Personal Growth) -Activity:** Draw a large tree. On the roots, write the qualities that make a "good friend" (e.g., kindness, listening). On the branches, write how those qualities might look as you get older.
- **Discussion:** In Year 5, friendships can change. Does a "good friend" at age 5 look different from a "good friend" at age 10? How can we stay inclusive even when our interests change?

Websites to help

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/> A range of games covering the curriculum

Complete weekly assignments on Spelling Shed and revise previous words

Continue with Times Tables Rockstars to ensure fluency of key facts.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. Thank you again for your continued support.

Warmly,

Mrs Hamman

Y5 Teacher

Wincham Community Primary School