



Dear Parents and Carers,

We are pleased to share an overview of the learning that will take place across the autumn term. This letter outlines the key areas of study in each subject and gives an indication of the knowledge, skills and experiences the children will have during the autumn term.

English

In English, we shall begin the year focusing on our Survival unit. As part of our learning in this area, we shall be learning about the events that unfolded in Pompeii in 79AD due to the eruption of Mount Vesuvius. This topic will provide a rich context for writing, reading and discussion, and will help children to develop their understanding of historical events through a literary lens. As part of this learning journey, we shall put ourselves into the shoes of those in Pompeii at the time, writing diaries, newspapers and narratives on this topic.

After this, we shall carry out our Britten's Got Talent topic in autumn 2. As part of this learning, we shall be exploring famous films, with a particular focus on musicals, with a view to writing our own poetry (songs) as well as writing our own play scripts linked to the themes within famous musicals. This will allow the children to work creatively with language, rhythm and structure, while also developing their confidence in performance and composition.

In addition to these topics, we shall also carry out daily Guided Reading sessions, where children will read a range of texts and have the opportunity to practice a range of reading skills. These sessions will support fluency, vocabulary development, inference and retrieval. We shall also carry out standalone SPAG lessons each Friday in English throughout the year, ensuring that spelling, punctuation and grammar are taught explicitly and revisited regularly.

Maths

In Maths, we will be focusing on the Power Maths scheme, delving into place value and the four operations. Our aim is to develop a deep understanding of these fundamental mathematical concepts to lay a solid foundation for further learning. We shall place great importance on gaining a confident understanding of place value up to ten million, whilst also considering decimal values such as tenths and hundredths. Children will revisit and secure their understanding of number structure, compare and order numbers, and recognise how digit placement affects value.

In addition to this, there will be a particular focus on manipulating fractions, whether this be through adding and subtracting multiple fractions with different denominators, multiplying fractions, dividing fractions and finding fractions of amounts. These units will be taught carefully and revisited through reasoning and problem-solving tasks so that children can explain their thinking and apply their knowledge in different contexts.

When focusing on the four operations, in addition to revising key skills from previous years, we shall also take time to understand how to use formal written methods for multiplication and division. We shall end the term by converting between imperial and metric units of measurement. Each Friday, we shall revise key concepts by carrying out an arithmetic activity.

Science

In Science, our first topic will be Living Things and their Habitats. Within this unit, children will explore classification and learn how living things are grouped according to their characteristics. They will create and

solve classification diagrams, using evidence to identify similarities and differences between organisms. This work will support scientific observation and logical thinking.

We will then learn about Evolution and Inheritance, whilst also considering the importance of adaptation too. Children will learn how living things change over time and how offspring inherit characteristics from their parents. We shall learn about how the ideas of Charles Darwin contribute to our knowledge in this area today. The children will consider how scientific ideas develop over time and how evidence has shaped modern understanding. We shall also attempt to create and excavate our own fossils in this topic, giving children a practical experience that supports their understanding of how fossils are formed.

RE

In RE, our big question in autumn term 1 is: What is the nature and character of God? This topic links to Christianity, Hinduism and Islam. Children will explore how different faith traditions understand God, and they will compare similarities and differences in beliefs, practices and teachings. We shall also carry out a character study into Ghandi and consider how his beliefs link to our key question. This will provide an opportunity for children to reflect on how beliefs shape action and behaviour.

In autumn 2 we shall consider the question: How do Christians prepare for Christmas? This is a topic that purely links to Christianity. Through this study, children will look at the significance of Advent, preparation and celebration within the Christian faith, considering the ways in which Christmas is observed and understood by believers.

Computing

In Computing we shall be learning about networks. We shall explore what a network is, the different types of networks and how networks are used. Children will investigate how devices connect and communicate, and how networks support everyday life in homes, schools and beyond. We carry out practical lessons, roleplaying the different components within a network. These activities will help children to understand the role of servers, clients and connections in a clear and memorable way.

We shall then learn about graphing. We shall learn about the different types of graphs – bar graphs, pie charts and line graphs, the differences between each, before having a go at creating our own. Children will consider which graph type is most appropriate for a given set of data and will practise presenting data accurately.

History

In autumn term 2, we shall begin out learning about WW2 and the Homefront. As part of this topic, we shall focus on what life was like in Britain during WW2, considering the roles and responsibilities that people had as well as what happened to children whilst the war was happening. Children will explore how the war affected daily life, including rationing, evacuation and civilian experience. This topic will help them to understand the impact of conflict on ordinary people and to consider the differing experiences of those living through the war.

Geography

In autumn term 1, we shall be learning about biomes and climate zones. We shall learn what each of these terms actually mean, identifying the types of biomes that exist, before using a range of tools to help us identify these biomes and climate zones on a world map. This unit will develop geographical knowledge of the world's environments and support children in understanding how climate affects landscapes, vegetation and human activity.

Music

In Music we shall explore the composition of Fingal's Cave by Mendelssohn. As part of this in-depth study we shall consider the dynamics, texture and pitch of the piece of music. Children will listen carefully to the musical elements and discuss how these shape the mood and character of the composition. We shall then go on to learn about the music from famous films, considering how music can change the meaning of scenes and how music in films can make you feel. This will link well to later English learning and encourage children to think about the relationship between sound and story.

PE

In PE we shall explore 4 different areas of the curriculum throughout autumn term. We shall begin by carrying out the first of our gymnastics units, alongside a team building and problem-solving unit. We shall then go on to carry out the first of our dance units alongside a creative games topic. PE shall be on a Monday and Friday each week and will be taught by Mr Blackburn and Mr McKay. Children will be expected to participate fully, developing physical control, coordination, cooperation and confidence.

Art

In this subject our topic is 2D Drawing to 3D Making. In this subject we shall carry out the following disciplines: Drawing, Graphic Design, Collage, Sketchbooks. Children will investigate how ideas can be developed from a flat image into a three-dimensional form, using a range of media and techniques. In addition to this, we shall explore the works of Lubaina Himid and Claire Harrup and consider how their works can inspire our own ideas. This will give children the opportunity to discuss artistic choices, presentation and the use of visual language.

Design Technology

In this topic we shall be learning about ration recipes from WW2, linking to the learning that we shall be carrying out in history during autumn term 2. We shall carry out back ground research into who Doctor Carrot and Potato Pete were during WW2. Children will learn how wartime food shortages shaped recipes and meal planning, and they will investigate how public information was shared at the time. We shall undertake food safety lessons before following step by step recipes in order to create a carrot raisin salad. This unit will support children in developing practical cooking skills, awareness of hygiene and understanding of how historical contexts influence design and food choices.

MFL

In this subject we shall be carrying out written and verbal lessons on the topics of 'Let's Visit a French Town' in autumn term 1 before moving onto 'Lets Go Shopping' in autumn term 2. Children will build confidence in speaking, listening, reading and writing in French, while learning practical vocabulary and simple sentence structures that can be applied in familiar contexts.

PSHE

In PSHE we shall first explore the topic of 'Relationships', though understanding fact finding, relationships with one another, racism and sexism. Children will discuss what makes respectful relationships, how to recognise unfair treatment, and how to respond appropriately to different situations. We shall then move onto our topic of 'Keeping Safe', through learning about social media age restrictions, drug addiction and Bonfire Night

Safety. These lessons will support children in developing informed, age-appropriate understanding of personal safety, online safety and responsible decision-making.

We look forward to a productive and engaging autumn term, with children having many opportunities to deepen their knowledge across the curriculum and to make connections between different areas of learning.

Kind regards,

Mr Blackburn