

Dragonflies Class



Curriculum Information

Curriculum Newsletter

April 2024

Summer Term 2024

Inside this booklet you will find details about your child's learning this half term including key vocabulary that they will come across.

As Readers the children will take part in guided reading sessions. They will explore skills around phonics, vocabulary, inference, summarising and retrieving information, as well as expressing opinions and impressions, using the text to support their answers. Modelled and shared reading will encourage children to read with expression out loud, using punctuation to read fluently. Supporting your child with reading at home will also help to maximise progress.



Key vocabulary: inference, summarise, impression, predict, opinion, retrieval, evidence



As Writers we will be learning how to write an exciting, action narrative, taking an abridged version of Beowulf as our model text. We will learn how to change the pace of the story and to build suspense before breaking the tension with a fight scene. Later, our non-fiction topic will be discussion, where we will explore arguments for and against the extermination of trolls.

Key vocabulary: action, pace, dialogue, dash, adverbial, sentence of 3, cohesion, argument, formal, passive

As Mathematicians we will look at decimals, percentages and fractions. We will learn what percentages are and explore their equivalence and how to order and compare them. Then we will learn how to find percentages of amounts and attempt problems around percentage increase and decrease. Later, we will move on to calculating perimeter and area, deriving one from the other and comparing shapes with different perimeters and areas. Finally, we will be learning about statistics, reading and interpreting bar and line graphs, pie charts, tables and pictograms.



Key vocabulary: tenths, hundredths, thousandths, percentage, length, width, perimeter, area, tally, continuous, discrete, equivalent,



As Designers Dragonflies will study frame structures which use lightweight materials to build strong and durable constructions. Children will practice with paper straws before drawing inspiration from real life examples, to design and build their own frame structure from a range of materials, deciding on which will give greatest strength and flexibility. Children will also develop their technical drawing skills and critique their design, suggesting ways to improve on their prototype.

Key vocabulary: assemble, technique, construct, extend, critique, prototype,

As Scientists our topic is Evolution and inheritance. The children will learn that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents. They will describe how adaptation leads to evolution and recognise how and why the human skeleton has changed over time, since we separated from other primates, learning how each adaptation gives an advantages and leads to survival over time.

Key vocabulary: Offspring, inheritance, variations, characteristics, adaption, habitat, environment, evolution, natural selection, fossil, adaptive traits and inherited traits.



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As Geographers we will be studying biomes. The children will use maps and atlases to locate land biomes and describe their features. They will describe the significance of latitude and longitude, building on previous knowledge. They will be looking deeper into physical features in biomes including forests, deserts, savannah and Tundra. They will explore the land use and how it is used for agriculture, economics, trade and the distribution of food.



Key vocabulary: Taiga, tundra, savannah, deciduous, boreal, temperate, longitude, latitude, tropic of Cancer, Capricorn, equator



As Historians the children will have the chance to learn about non-European cultures, looking at early Islamic civilisation. We will learn about the sequence of Islamic empires that followed the Arab conquests of the sixth century. We will learn about how they conserved and improved learning from the Hellenistic world with advanced in engineering, medicine and Mathematics. We will learn about the glories of early medieval Baghdad and its influence on the world

Key vocabulary: caliph, dynasty, Abbasid, Umayyad, calligraphy, silk road, geometric

As Philanthropists, the class will learn about economic well-being, financial capability, careers, earning and borrowing money. Pupils will learn what influences people's decisions about careers, the meaning of enterprise and the risks involved with borrowing money.



Key vocabulary: finance, debt, loan shark, enterprise, interest, transaction, profit, salary

As linguists we will be studying two units in the Summer term. The first deals with everyday routines, including times of day. The children will use French conjunctions to sequence daily activities such as breakfast, going to school and going to bed. Later we will learn how to say which sports we like. The children will express their opinions about these sports and the reasons behind them.

Key vocabulary: Je me lève, Je prends mon petit déjeuner, Je vais à l'école, Je prends mon déjeuner; à... une heure, deux heures (moins) cinq, dix, vingt, vingt-cinq; tu aimes quels sports? J'aime la natation, le vélo, la danse, le football, le tennis

As Theologians we will be learning about how beliefs shape identity for Muslims and how they impact, influence and change lives. We will look at the social history of Islam, including the schism between Sunni and Shia; the mosque as a central part of daily life and the reliability and authenticity of Islamic texts such as the Qu'ran and the Hadith.



Key vocabulary: The Prophet Muhammad, Mosque, Islam, Muslim, Eid, Hadith, Hadjirah, Jummah, Mecca,



As technicians we will look at programming as an aspect of computer science, specifically, repetition in shapes. This unit looks at repetition and loops within programming. Pupils will create programs by planning, modifying and testing commands to create shapes and patterns. They will use Logo, a text-based programming language.

Key vocabulary: debug, decompose, command, snippet, algorithm, repetition, loop, count-control

This overview is intended to give you a flavour of what we will be studying this term. If you recognise any of this 'good learning' at home, please feel free to write it on a post it note and send it into school so that we can add it to your child's learning. This will help us to recognise the next steps in learning that your child needs to take.

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Remember – you should be reading, practising your spellings and your times tables as frequently as you can every week.



Spelling

Spellings to learn each week will be given practised in class, then given out on Fridays to complete and rehearse for a spelling test each Wednesday.

Maths

One piece of maths homework also goes out on a Friday, to consolidate what we have been doing in class. This should be returned by the following Wednesday.

Times Tables

Times tables are a foundation for so much of our Maths learning and we will do lots in class but please practise yourself via Tackling Times Tables at least 4 times a week.



Also, practise with songs, chanting, write them down, get tested by a friend or family member...

Reading

Read aloud with an adult at



least 5 times a week, write this in your Reading Record book and get your adult to sign it. Bring these in each day as we will also have the opportunity to read in class.

Of course, you can read independently in addition to this!

Please ask if you are having trouble logging on to Tackling Tables or if you need to be reminded of your login info.