

Curriculum Newsletter

January 2024

Fireflies Spring Term

As readers in Fireflies we are continuing with Reading Rangers. At this moment in time, this is not for all children in Fireflies. However, we come together as a whole class on a Monday and Wednesday to conduct spelling skills, and a spelling, grammar and punctuation lesson. All children will now receive weekly spelling lists to practice at home.



As Writers we are exploring George and the Dragon with the aim of them writing an exciting story about a hero and villain. There will be lots of interactive activities within this unit, which will engage the children whilst teaching some of the key skills needed for this unit, such as adverbs, onomatopoeia and complex sentences. The children will really be building on their writing this term, with a specific focus on this in class.



As Mathematicians Fireflies will begin expanding their skills with multiplication and division. This is a particularly important unit for the year 4's as they will be completing their times table test at the end of the year. To prepare them for this, they will have weekly times table quizzes, building their fluency and speed. It is highly encouraged at this stage to identify any table your child is finding a challenge and practice these at home.



Key vocabulary: Multiply, divide, multiple, share, group, fluency, efficient.



As Designers we are exploring Anglo Saxon Art in Fireflies. Looking at how the Anglo Saxons created Art, what styles and materials they used and re-creating some of these techniques and methods. This links with our history this term.

As Scientists are Fireflies are exploring Sound. Children will be engaged through investigation tasks, creating instruments and sound proof boxes. They will learn how sound travels, how we hear sound and the role of vibration within creating sound. Children will complete an independent writing task within Science, to write a letter to a band telling them the best materials to use for their own sound proof booth!



Key vocabulary: vibration, amplitude, frequency, pitch, high, low, particles.



As Philanthropists, the children will be looking at drugs and alcohol and their impacts. This will be an introduction to this unit which will continue as they travel across the school. Initially the children will be introduced to what a drug is, how drugs are used in everyday life and the impact that tobacco and alcohol can have on a person. They will also explore the help available for this issue.

As Geographers in Spring 2 children will be completing the unit trade and transport. They will use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features. They will also use fieldwork to observe and record the human and physical features in the local area using a range of methods.



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As Historians children will be delving into the world of the Anglo Saxons. Firstly, learning about who the Anglo Saxon's were, and why they came to Britain. They will develop chronological skill and begin to add events, artifacts and information to a timeline. They will explore links between the Romans and Anglo Saxons using their knowledge from previous units.

Key vocabulary: Chronology, Anglo Saxons, invasion, primary and secondary sources.

As linguists, the children will be developing their French knowledge and understanding. They will explore colours and clothes in French. They will develop their conversation skills and should be able to order food in French by the end of the unit. They will listen to French stories and songs and should be able to interpret meaning from these.



As technicians this term, we have a very exciting unit. They children will be creating a stop frame animation taking inspiration from the likes of Fantastic Mr Fox and Chicken Run! The children will be linking this to their History, creating a stop frame animation to recreate a scene from Anglo Saxon history.