

Happy New Year! Welcome back, everyone! I hope you all had a wonderful festive break. We are looking forward to an exciting term ahead, especially as we welcome new starters to our Nursery. This term, we will be discovering our natural world through our topics: 'Into the Woods' and 'How Does Your Garden Grow?'. We'll embark on adventures such as visits to the park and farm to experience our topics first hand so that children can develop an understanding of the environments and the creatures that inhabit it. Various celebrations throughout the term such as Lunar New Year and Eid allow us to learn about and compare other cultures. Here's to a fun-filled term of learning and discovery!

Important Dates:

- Park Visits – WC 27/01/25
- Teddy Bears Picnic – 13/02/25
- World Book Day – 06/03/25
- Parents Meeting – WC 10/03/25



Home Learning

Choosing a shared story for home will now take place on Friday mornings during Family Friday. Families can choose a book to take home which will then be returned the following week. Please come along and choose a lovely story to read at home!

Nursery Rhymes to practise at home:

- Sleeping Bunnies
- Round and Round the Garden
- Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear Turn around
- Twinkle Twinkle
- Wheels on the Bus



Stories:

Spring 1

- **Goldilocks and the Three Bears**
- **We're going on a Bear Hunt**

This half term we delve into the world of Bears through the above familiar stories. We will read the fairy tale of Goldilocks and think about where the story is set (the woods). To enhance our storytelling abilities we will make and use our own masks and props in our story to retell it. Repeated refrains from the story will be said using loud and proud voices and we will use and create our own story maps.



Spring 2

- **Jasper's Beanstalk**
- **Hungry Caterpillar**

In Spring 2 we use the stories above to enhance our learning about life cycles and growing. We will use sequential language to order a story and create oral recounts about how to grow a beanstalk. Non-fiction texts will also enhance our learning this half term as we look at the different parts of plants.



Communication and Language

During Spring Term we are working on asking or answering simple questions with our key worker. We provide opportunities to ask and answer simple questions about our learning and about stories that are being read. During Key Person time we are also learning to retell simple past experiences, which allows us to build our narrative skills. We will use Colourful Semantics and Box clever to learn to speak in 'who' and 'what doing' sentences. We aim to express ourselves using phrases of 4-6 words, promoting clarity and fluency. We will also introduce Story Scribing this half term, which encourages children to create their own stories and act them out for their friends. This encourages creativity and Literacy Development. This blend of activities helps ensure children not only enjoy their learning but also build a strong foundation in communication and language.



Phonics

Spring 1: We will develop an understanding of word awareness and knowing that sentences are made up of individual words. We will clap sentences, make silly sentences and then play games to help us to recognise where one word ends and another begins. We will begin to understand that words can be segmented into syllables.

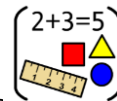


Spring 2: In Spring 2 we will delve into the world of rhyme and explore rhymes through nursery rhymes and stories.

Maths

Spring 1: In Spring 1 we will be practising counting, where children will count objects, say the number names in order and also begin to count actions. Children will begin to recognise that anything can be counted and show an interest in this in their play. We will also explore patterns in our environment as well as delve into learning about length and height.

Spring 2: In Spring 2 we will learn all about the **Number 3**, including recognising triangles. We will count 3, show 3 on our fingers and begin to say how the number 3 is made. We will also introduce using sequential language such as 'first and last' 'before and after'.



PSHE:

Now we have settled into Nursery, we are really focusing on extending our play further by elaborating on play ideas, making our play more deep and meaningful and by beginning to seek out others to join in their play.

To learn about keeping healthy we will learn about and try healthy foods as well as discuss the importance of good oral health and hand hygiene.

This term we will also introduce our Bankside learning cogs, focusing specifically on resilience, independence, pride and enquiry. During Key Person time we will learn to reflect on our learning and talk about which cog we have used to help us.



Physical Development

We like to move it move it! As always we will be constantly active in our wonderful and large indoor and outdoor space. Outside we will make obstacles using large planks and wide beams and learn to balance carefully on these. Through play and outdoor games we will also work on developing our ball skills. We will work on kicking, rolling and throwing.

We want to make the muscles in our fingers strong so our provision this half term will include smaller and thinner tools such as beads and boards and thin paintbrushes. We are aiming to show more accuracy in our mark making and drawing and create pictures using circles and lines.



Expressive Arts and Design

As always, children have access to arts, design and role play activities daily in their provision. However, through our topic around growing, we will create observational drawings of flowers and other things that we have found in the garden.

A focus in provision is to continue to develop our imagination when making models in different areas of the classroom and use our reflection cog to evaluate them and think about how we could further improve them.

Being imaginative and creative is at the forefront of all we do in Nursery. This half term as we introduce story scribing, we hope to develop lots of budding authors! We have set up a performance area full of masks, instruments and puppets to help children to allow children to develop their expressive skills.



Understanding The World

We will embark on adventures that spark curiosity and wonder. We will discover the various creatures and critters that call the forest home, from chirpy birds to bustling insects. We will also take trips to the local park and farm, where we can explore nature up close. We will meet farm animals and learn about their habitats. Growing our own beanstalks is another exciting project; it's amazing to watch the transformation from tiny seeds into tall plants right before our eyes!

Additionally, we look at flowers, exploring their colours and shapes, which brings the beauty of nature into our classroom. Not to forget, we celebrate cultural diversity by learning about Lunar New Year and Eid, introducing the children to different traditions and festivities that enrich our understanding

of the world around us.



Attendance Ladder



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Hello lovely families! Welcome to the start of the new year! We are looking forward to teaching lots of new things throughout this term to your children and see the progress they will make! Here is an update on all the things we will be learning this term....

Important Dates:

WB 13th Jan: Forest School Resumes
Alternate family Fridays: Parent workshops: see Class Dojo for information.
Various dates across March: Your children will have an opportunity to visit a farm! Watch out for your child's date!



Our PE Days:

Friday



Our book changing days:

Friday



Homework:

Please take the time to talk to your child about their day. Read them a story at bedtime.
Please complete the speed read sheets we send home each week.



Literacy:

Every half term we will have two focus stories. Our stories this term are; Peace at Last and The Little Red Hen. We will explore key vocabulary from these texts and begin to learn how to learn stories by heart and retell them. We will work towards producing pictures with labels and captions to show meaning.



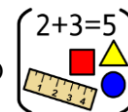
Communication and Language:

This term we are continuing to learn how to use our looking eyes and listening ears. This helps children be ready to learn new things and remember them. We will be teaching children how to answer who and what questions, responding with a who, what doing and where sentence. We will learn new and ambitious vocabulary in our word of the week sessions such as Nocturnal and Migrate.



Maths:

In maths this term we will continue to learn how to subitise numbers 1-4, to look at an amount of objects and know how many there are without counting. We will also learn about the composition of numbers to 1-7 and make comparisons using the words 'more than, less than and equal'. We will explore height and length, as well as continuing to model the use of prepositional language (on top/behind). We will learn about squares and how to continue a pattern.



Phonics

The children are now fully participating in our Sounds Write lessons. We will continue to work on children's listening skills and their ability to blend. We will continue to learn how to hear the first sound in any given word. We will be focussing on children learning to build, read and spell words with 3 sounds such as cat, hot and peg. Watch out for upcoming parents workshops around reading!



PSHE:

This term is all about us learning how to talk about our feelings using the feelings thermometer. We will read stories that help us to understand our own feelings and those of others. We will continue to use our school COGS to describe our learning processes. We will learn how to turn our resilient cog, and not give up on our goals.



Physical Development:

A big focus of this term is preparing children to write and form letters correctly. We will look at core body strength by encouraging children to use our movement play area. We will be introducing lots of clay modelling experiences to really help with fine muscle development.



People, Culture and Communities:

A big focus of this half term is to talk about emergency services and the important role that they have in our community. We will look at how they help us and some may even pay us a visit!. We will then learn all about 2 key festivals, Lunar New Year and of course, Eid.



Understanding The World

This term we will be learning about all things Winter! We will be talking about the changes that we see, particularly within our local area. We will explore Nocturnal animals in Spring 1 and then move onto farm animals in spring 2. We will be having some exciting visitors at the end of spring 2 that may make a few changes whilst in our care...watch out for this! We will also be developing our garden, planting spring flowers and watching them grow!



Expressive Arts and Design

This term we will explore joining materials further by using much finer detail when creating with paper. We will encourage children to use scissor skills to shape their paper to make something else.... A skill that will help them in their Big Create Week: creating a Nocturnal animal display and making a farm animal costume. We will also be learning many farm themed rhymes and songs to perform for you in our spring concert!



Attendance Ladder



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Welcome to Spring term! We hope everyone had a wonderful break and is ready for the exciting learning ahead! We have some gorgeous topics this term we are very excited to teach your children which will involve a family Friday; as well as World Book Day! We are continuing to have high expectations of the children to ensure they are achieving their best and taking pride in the work they produce. Thank you for your ongoing support with this!

Important Dates:

Winter walk – Date TBC
Family Friday – Date TBC
World Book Day – 6/3/25
Parent/carers evening 12/3/25



Our PE Days:

O1/O2 Tuesday and Wednesday
O3 Tuesday and Friday



Our book changing days:

Return the book on Thursday
New book sent out on Friday
Please bring back the yellow reading record too.



Homework:

Read and sign planner 3 times a week



Literacy:

Spring 1 - Our first book is 'Welcome to the World'. We will be continuing to use our Writers Toolkit (capital letters, finger spaces and full stops). We will also be introducing the pronoun I, as at the end of this term the children will be producing a fact file about themselves!



Spring 2 - We will be diving into the world of traditional tales! Learning the story of Jack and the Beanstalk with the aim to innovate it by changing the character and setting. We will continue to build on our key writing skills as well as introducing question marks and exclamation marks.



Science:

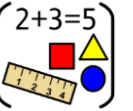
This term we will be exploring a variety of common animals, including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals. We'll also delve into what they eat - are they omnivores, herbivores, or carnivores? Additionally, we will identify and label the basic parts of the human body and link them to our senses. Exciting times ahead! There will be plenty of opportunities to use the Enquiry cog to find out more information!



Maths:

Spring 1

We will be continuing our Addition and Subtraction to 20 learning and then moving onto Place Value to 50; where the children will have lots of opportunities to consolidate their previous learning. We will also be exploring length, height, mass and volume in fun and interactive ways.



Spring 2

We will be learning about multiplication and division through exploring arrays and equal sharing. Afterwards we will be exploring fractions. Both topics will be very practical and engaging!

Geography:

We're diving into an exciting journey around the globe, focusing on the 7 continents. In addition, we'll explore the four countries that make up the United Kingdom along with their capital cities. We will be using world maps, atlases and the internet to explore this exciting topic as well as touching on where our families come from!



PSHE: We'll explore **Life Changes** and discover that talking about our feelings can really make a difference. Our next topic will be **Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing**; we will also learn about different types of feelings and how to manage them. Alongside this we look at strong emotions and recognising when someone, including ourselves, is being unkind. We will be making lots of links to the school rules 'We make problems smaller not bigger'; as well as using the Reflection cog.



PE: This term we will be continuing to focus on our coordination and balance! Exploring jumping and landing in different ways as well as looking at a variety of balancing positions. The children will also be continuing to use their Collaborative cog as we look at Dance and creating shapes individually and as a team.



Religious Education:

We will be learning about what it means to be part of a Mosque or Church, delving into the practices and community spirit within these places of worship. Additionally, we'll discuss the importance of caring for others and how we can make a positive impact in our communities.



Computing:

We are continuing to build on last terms knowledge and progressing forward; using the keyboard and mouse to log onto the computer using our own log ins. We will be exploring how we can keep safe on a computer/online. Looking at appropriate sites we are able to use in school and at home.



Art/Design Technology:

In Art this term we will be creating 3D papier mache flowers inspired by the artist Jeff Koons! First we will plan how we are going to create our flowers, what materials will work and not work and what skills we will be using.



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As we step into the Spring term, we're thrilled to share all the exciting learning adventures lined up for our little ones! This term, we'll be diving into our fascinating topics, and we can't wait for our trip to Skipton Castle – what a fantastic opportunity to bring history to life! We're also looking forward to celebrating World Book Day, where the children can showcase their favourite characters. Let's continue to support our children in working hard and embracing their curiosity. Here's to a wonderful term ahead!

Important Dates:



Skipton Castle – 23/1/25
 World Book Day - 6/3/25
 Parents Evening - 11/3/25

Our PE Days:

Yellow 1 – Wednesday & Friday
 Yellow 2 – Thursday & Friday
 Yellow 3 – Wednesday & Friday



Our book changing days:

Return book on **Thursday**.
 New book sent out on **Friday**.



Homework:

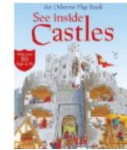
Read and sign planner 3 times a week.
 30 mins of Numbots.



Literacy:

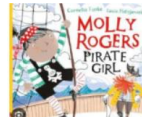
Spring 1

The children will write recounts of our adventure, using conjunctions like 'and' and 'but', alongside time words such as 'first' and 'then'. We will also write instructions detailing how to protect a castle. We instruct everyone to build tall walls, keep a watchful eye, and ensure the drawbridge is raised at night.



Spring 2

We will be exploring the exciting world of pirates through the book *Molly Rogers Pirate Girl*. The children will be crafting informal letters that describe their thrilling captures on the high seas. They will be wonderfully inventive, using vivid adjectives to bring their adventures to life.



Maths:

Spring 1

We'll be diving into multiplication and division, where the children will explore arrays and grouped objects to help them understand these important concepts. Alongside this, we'll be handling money, giving everyone a chance to develop their skills in recognising coins and calculating totals.



Spring 2

We will explore length, height, mass, capacity, and temperature through fun and interactive activities. We'll measure objects around the classroom and compare their lengths and heights, as well as weigh items to understand mass. Capacity will be introduced through practical experiments with different containers.

Science:

We are diving into the fascinating world of materials! Our budding scientists will explore the properties of different substances, such as wood, metal, plastic, and fabric. Through engaging activities, they'll investigate how these materials feel, look, and behave. We'll discover which materials are flexible, which are hard, and which are good insulators. We'll also be discussing the practical uses of these materials in our everyday lives. Children will learn why certain materials are chosen for specific items, like why we use glass for windows or rubber for tyres. To make this learning more interactive, we'll conduct some exciting experiments that allow the children to compare and contrast materials first hand.



History & Geography

Spring 1

In History, Year 2 will explore the fascinating lives of two remarkable queens: Queen Victoria and Queen Elizabeth II. We'll compare their reigns, looking at key events, influences, and how each queen shaped Britain. Get ready for some exciting discussions and activities that bring history to life!



Spring 2

In Geography, we'll be exploring the fascinating world of continents and oceans! Pupils will learn about the seven continents and five oceans, alongside an in-depth look at the United Kingdom. We're excited to ignite their curiosity about our planet's geography!



PSHE:

We're focusing on some vital themes. In Spring 1, our children will explore '**Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing**'. We'll engage in discussions to help them understand their feelings and promote resilience. Moving into Spring 2, we'll shift our attention to '**Relationships and Health Education**', where students will learn about building healthy relationships and making informed choices. Our Mind Mate sessions will address **life changes** and recognising **strong emotions**. It's shaping up to be a fantastic term for growth and understanding!



PE:

This spring term in Year 2 PE, our focus will be on Dynamic Balance, where students will practise maintaining their balance while moving. We'll also work on Stance, ensuring everyone understands the importance of a strong foundation. As we travel around the space, children will engage in fun activities to improve their movement and coordination. We'll incorporate Rotation and Footwork drills to enhance agility and speed. It's going to be an exciting term filled with energy, teamwork, and lots of fun!



Religious Education:

We'll explore how we can make good choices in our daily lives, discussing the importance of values and decision-making. Additionally, we'll learn about prayer—how and why people pray in different religions. Through stories, songs, and activities, we'll understand the role of prayer in connecting with others and expressing our thoughts and feelings. It's going to be a fantastic opportunity for the children to reflect on their own choices and beliefs while learning about those of others!



Computing:

We'll dive into the fascinating world of loops in IT! The children will explore how loops can help us create repeating patterns in coding. They'll be using fun platforms like Scratch to design their own animations and simple games, where they can make characters move and dance using loops. By the end of the term, they'll be excited to showcase their creations to their classmates, demonstrating the magic of coding in a playful way!



Art

This spring, Year 2 will embark on an exciting artistic journey inspired by the brilliant Paul Klee! We'll explore his enchanting piece, "Castle and The Sun," using it as a springboard for our own creativity. Students will dive into the world of collage, experimenting with various shapes to create their own colourful castles. They will get hands-on with colour mixing, discovering how to blend hues to make their artworks truly pop. It's going to be a term filled with imagination and we can't wait to see the masterpieces our young artists create!



Attendance Ladder



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Important Dates:

16th January G1 Trip to Recycling Centre
 22nd January G3 Trip to Recycling Centre
 24th January G2 Trip to Recycling Centre
 6th March - World Book Day
 12th March - Parents Evening



Our PE Days:

Monday and Tuesday
 Please make sure your child wears
 trainers as well as their PE kit.



Our book changing days:

Green 1&2 - **Friday**
 Green 3 - **Thursday**
 All 3 classes change their library books
 on a **Tuesday**.



Homework

Times Table Rockstars
 Reading everyday



In Green Base this term, we have lots of exciting adventures planned, starting with our trip to the recycling centre to learn about what happens to our waste and in the second half term, going to Leeds City Museum to learn about Egyptians! All these adventures will enhance and inspire the children to produce some fantastic work!

Literacy:

In English this half term, the children will be writing a letter to Ms. Broughton to explain what we can do to make our school more sustainable. We will be using the non fiction text 'What a Waste' to learn about the impact of pollution and waste on our environment. In Spring 2, we will be writing an alternative ending to the story 'Cinderella of the Nile' which will allow the children to expand their creative writing skills.



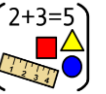
Science:

To complement our Geography topic, Rivers, in science this half term we will be learning about rocks and soils. There will be lots of investigations looking at different types of rocks, the children will also be making edible soils! Once we've finished rocks and soils, we will move on to looking at fossils; how they are formed and what we can learn from them?



Maths:

In Maths we will be continuing to work on multiplication and division. The children will learn how to multiply and divide 2 digit numbers by a 1 digit number. They will then move on to learning about fractions. This will include working out fractions of shapes, quantities and numbers. Everyday we will be continuing to practise our times tables through times table booklets.



Geography

Our Geography this half term is Rivers. The children will look at the features of rivers, what rivers are used for and also famous rivers around the world. They will complete a local area study looking at the features of the River Aire that runs through Leeds.



History

Next half term we have a history focus, looking at the life of the Egyptians and how life compared to life nowadays. We will look at schools, houses and leisure activities!



PSHE:

In PSHE, our focus is Resilience and Kindness.



At the beginning of each half term we will be doing a full afternoon of Mind Mate which is great for supporting the children's emotional and mental health. This term our Mind Mate focus is Managing Change.

PE:

Spring 1

In outside PE the children are looking at footwork and balancing. In inside PE the children are continuing gymnastics.



Spring 2

In inside PE the children will be using their creative skills to balance and travel. In outside PE the children will be using their ball skills to send and receive balls.

Religious Education:

Our RE focus this half term is Islam and specifically about how the five pillars of Islam help Muslims live a good life. The children will be looking at and exploring artefacts and listening to stories to understand different ways of life.



Computing:

Internet safety is our focus for this half term. We will then move onto coding, initially coding and debugging instructions we give to each other and then moving onto looking at how to code and debug age appropriate software.



DT

In Spring 1, we will be investigating the structure of bridges and how to triangulate to make them stronger. The children will then design and make a bridge strong enough to support a toy car!

Art

In Spring 2 we will be looking at Tinga Tinga art and answering the question; Does art need to be on paper? The children will experiment painting on different surfaces to create Tinga Tinga inspired animals.



Attendance Ladder



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We are Blue Base – Year 4! We are focussing hard on learning all our times tables and consolidating that knowledge in Spring 1 and 2. We are continuing to create lessons that children enjoy and give them the confidence to be resilient learners.

Important Dates:

Blue 2 – Swimming on Thursdays (come with swimsuit under PE Kit)
Friday 28th February and Wednesday 5th March – Ancient Greece, Leeds Museum Workshop



Our PE Days:

Blue 1 (Ms Erskine/ Ms Webster)
Blue 2 (Ms Reid)
Blue 3 (Mr Lancaster)



Our book changing days:

Phonics books – Mondays/Tuesdays
Library books - Fridays



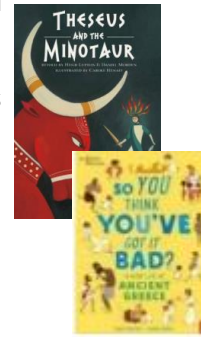
Homework:

Times Table Rockstars – your child will have a LOGIN given to them.



English:

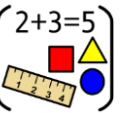
Spring 1: We are reading Theseus and the Minotaur and learning about how Greek Myths were written. We will write our own myth including a hero/heroine, a magical object, a mythical creature and its dangerous habitat. We are continuing to improve our sentences using conjunctions and improving the cohesion of our paragraphs.



Spring 2: We are writing a non-chronological report on life in Ancient Greece. Using skills to organize our increasing knowledge such as: Headings, sub-headings, bullet-points, fronted adverbials and conjunctions.

Maths:

We are teaching the children to multiply and divide any number by 10, 100 or 1000. We do this using practical activities, place value charts, Numicon and visual representations to help children embed this knowledge. We also move onto perimeter (the distance around a shape) and will have lots of fun measuring large and small scale areas.



Science:

In Spring 1: We are learning all about sound. Find out all you can about sound; how it travels, pitch and volume. Then we will investigate materials to see which will provide the best insulation against sound.



In Spring 2: We are learning about electricity, what is a circuit and a chance to build one! We will learn what makes a good conductor and how to stay safe!

History:

In Spring we are delving deeply into the world of Ancient Greece. We will learn about the similarities and differences between the city states of Greece. We will learn about Alexander the Great – was he great? Why? Finally, how has Greek civilization affected our lives today?



PHSE: We will start our term with our Mindmate lesson about **feeling emotions** is a part of life. Then we will move onto our topic about careers and money. What can be a risk when borrowing money? What is enterprise? How do people make decisions about careers?



PE:

In Year 4, we are continuing with our swimming programme, this term it is Blue 2's turn to take to the water! This will be every Thursday. We also have a cricket workshop for Year 4 this half-term '**A Chance to Shine**'. During indoor sessions the children are continuing gym skills, flight and rotation and in Spring 2 moving onto dance; artistry and shape.



Religious Education:

We will be learning about Sikhism this term. About Guru Nanak and his teachings, how we can apply them to our lives today. What is the significance of his life and the stories that are told? What makes a guru special? What qualities do they have?



Computing:

In computing we are following our programming scheme. Children follow instructions to be creative and modify ready-made learning code and know that prediction and trial and error are important processes in design.



Art/ DT

In Art in Spring 1 we will be looking at Greek pottery and making our own using clay! We will study uses and designs to create our own.

In DT in Spring 2 we will look at the use of columns in Greek architecture and why they are so useful – leading to building our own columns – whose will be the strongest?



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Attendance Ladder





Happy New Year! We have a much shorter, but equally exciting and busy term ahead of us, with much to look forward to. There will be a trip to the Leeds Discovery Centre, which is a fantastic opportunity for the children to see some really ancient artefacts from the local area, including fossils, millions of years old! We can't wait to get stuck into another term of learning, and we thank you in advance for supporting your child through ensuring their homework is done and they are equipped and on time for school each day. Here's to a brilliant Spring Term!

Important Dates:

28th/29th January – Leeds Discover Centre
13th February – Road Safety workshops
W/B 10th February – Mock SATs
6th March – World Book Day
11th March – Parents' Evening
W/B 24th March – Mock SATs



Our PE Days:

Monday and Thursday



Our book changing days:

Monday – Library
Friday – Levelled reading book



Homework:

Maths – daily
Reading – daily
SPaG – daily



Literacy:

Spring 1 – Windrush Child

We will be studying this brilliant book by Benjamin Zephaniah, which teaches us some of the difficulties and prejudices faced by the Windrush generation when they came to the UK following WW2. We will be writing poetry and exploring the use of dialogue in storytelling.

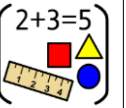


Spring 2 – Information leaflets

To accompany our local history topic, we will write a leaflet for a guided tour of the local area, celebrating significant landmarks and encouraging others to visit. We will be working hard to use persuasive, formal and topic specific language in our writing.

Maths:

In Spring Term, we learn how to calculate with decimals, fractions and percentages, and convert between the three. Having made such a strong start with fractions last term, we look forward to seeing how brilliantly the children tackle this next challenge.



Next, we will be learning about ratio: a brand new concept for many of the children, but one which builds on the ideas learned from the fractions topic. We will also have an increased focus on reasoning problems, applying our mathematical skills and knowledge in a range of contexts.

Science:

Spring 1 – Evolution and Inheritance

We will learn the process of fossilisation and use fossils to learn about living things from millions of years ago. We will also research the many different ways that animals and plants have adapted to suit the environment in which they live. Leeds Discovery Centre have created a workshop about fossils especially for us!



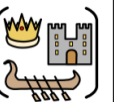
Spring 2 - Light

We will learn how light enables us to see, how it travels and can be reflected/refracted, and we will investigate how light is actually made up of many different colours. There are lots of practical investigations in this topic, making it really engaging for the children.

History and Geography:

Local History

This is a brilliant topic, that gives our children the chance to learn more about the history of Harehills and Chapeltown. We believe it is crucial that children have pride in their local area and hope that this topic really instils in them a sense of community and collective identity, alongside celebrating their diversity.



Climate Change

This important topic will explore some of the causes and effects of climate change here, and more globally, as well as potential solutions that we can all take responsibility for. We will investigate alternative energy and ways of living more sustainably.

PSHE:

Our PSHE focus this term is on mental health. Year 6 have already begun to engage brilliantly with this topic through our assemblies so we look forward to some interesting, in-depth discussions about what can affect our mental health, how we can manage it (particularly in potentially stressful situations) and how we can work to remove the stigma that can still surround discussions of mental health. We will be thinking about this in term of our own health, and that of those around us.



PE:

Having enjoyed working with the Jason Robinson Foundation last term, we are thrilled that they are returning to Year 6 again this term. We will be playing cricket and continuing to practise the accuracy of our ball delivery. Additionally, the children will study dance, learning how to use their bodies with precision and intention to make different shapes, and travel around a space in a range of different ways.



Religious Education:

Spring 1 – Rites of Passage

We will learn about rites of passage in religions, such as Bar Mitzvah in Judaism, Amrit in Sikhism and Confirmation in Christianity. We will discover what they mean to those who go through them.



Spring 2 – How do Buddhists live a meaningful life?

We will learn about the life of Siddhartha Guatama (Buddha) and how his teachings influence Buddhists around the world. Buddhism is a fascinating religion with lots of fantastic stories and ideas to engage our children.

Computing:

Children will continue to build on the coding skills they have learnt. By gradually creating longer and more complex algorithms, we will begin to see how computer games are developed and the pain-staking work that goes into such a process. Alongside this, we will continue to develop the children's awareness of internet safety, teaching them how to navigate the web, including social media, in a way that keeps them safe and happy.



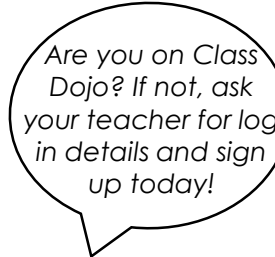
Art:

Year 6 will be drawing self portraits this term, and studying the contrasting portraiture of Barbara Walker and Arinze Stanley, whose techniques will inspire our own work. We will use charcoal for our portraits, and will work hard to hone our observational skills: we need to make sure we are drawing what we see, and not what we think we look like! We will explore different blending and shading techniques, and use the charcoals to create shadow and texture. We can't wait to see the finished pieces.



ClassDojo

<https://www.classdojo.com/en-gb/?redirect=true>



Attendance Ladder





We would like to extend a warm welcome back to school to all our children in year 5 and hope they continue to enjoy an informative, exciting and fun-filled year with us. We aim to help your child to be the best that they can be and will be here to guide them along the way to achieve this aim of high expectations. As always, we would like to thank you for your ongoing support and hope that you will continue to encourage your child with the homework they are given this year.

Important Dates:

Friday 7th March 2025 Zoolab coming into school.



Our PE Days:

Wednesday and Thursday.



Our book changing days:

Friday



Homework:

Daily – please remind your child to bring in their homework and reading book everyday.



Literacy:

Spring 1: We will begin the term by reading the engaging novel 'There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom', which has interesting links to PSHE topics such as bullying and self esteem issues. The children will encounter a variety of grammar activities, using different sentence openers, including fronted adverbials, understanding tenses and person for writing. Utilising these skills, the children will write a diary entry from the perspective of the main character in the novel.



Spring 2: We will immerse ourselves in the rainforests and focus our attention on non-fiction texts. Our grammar activities will include using relative clauses and conjunctions to ensure the flow in written work. The writing outcome will be to write a discursive text based on rainforest deforestation, a worthy topic, I am sure you will agree.

Science:

We will finish our Life cycle topic by making comparisons between different types of animals and looking closely at plant growth. We will explore space and our place within the solar system. This is a fascinating topic that will engage and excite the children. We will find out how the Earth moves around the sun and the movement of the moon, including how we get day and night. We will also be looking at the phases of the moon and how we see the moon from Earth. We will soar into the International Space Station and discover the interesting work that they do, along with its structure.



Maths:

We will learn the formal written methods of short and long multiplication before moving onto dividing methods. Both of these topics will be used to explore reasoning and problem solving activities to develop the depth of children's knowledge. We will then make a return to calculating fractions, prior to investigating decimals and percentages. This, in turn will allow us to make the links between the three topics and be able to use connections for equivalents and calculate between them all. We will explore how to calculate perimeter and area, which will extend to applying this knowledge to real life problem solving and reasoning activities.



Geography:

We will delve into the Rainforests this term, where we will look at locating different rainforests around the world (temperate and tropical) using atlases and the Internet. We will also be learning about the different layers of the rainforests, how they work and the animals that live in the different parts of the rainforests. We will delve into the adaptations of plants in order to survive, the habitats and the issue of deforestation and the impact this has on the World. We will begin the topic by recapping on general geographic skills, for example: knowing the continents and oceans, etc.



PSHE:

In PSHE, we will be focussing on our mental health and wellbeing. We will also explore a range of emotions and their varying degrees of intensity and look at how people can express emotions differently. We will also investigate the feelings associated with loss, grief and bereavement, including understanding the periods of grief that people go through.



PE:

Our PE this term will focus on the physical cog, where the children will learn, develop and apply all gym skills on the floor, through partner work utilising focused skill development, sequence creation and games.

We will also use our personal cog, for the children to react positively to challenge during our dance component. The children will learn and develop shapes and circles and create sequences of movement with these through partnering and artistry.



Religious Education:

We will explore the Hindu belief in God and how Hindu people worship in different ways at home and in the Mandir. We will be able to identify similarities and differences in belief and worship in different traditions in Hinduism and compare these to other beliefs. We will be able to identify shared characteristics of religions and explain how these traditions are connected to each other.



Computing:

In computing this term, we revisit password and Internet safety, ensuring that we keep children safe when using electronic devices in and out of school.

We will also continue to research and develop online puzzles, which will include sequencing and debugging skills in maze puzzles. We will practice reading and editing code to fix puzzles with simple algorithms, loops and nested loops.



Art/Design Technology:

In art this term, we will spotlight our attention to two very different artists, the French artist Henri Rousseau and the self-taught Argentinian Pablo Amaringo. We will research their lives and explore their different types of art. We will then endeavour to utilise their ideas with our own innovative attempts to replicate their style, which will include pencil drawing, painting and collage activities.



ClassDojo

<https://www.classdojo.com/en-gb/?redirect=true>

Are you on Class Dojo? If not, ask your teacher for log in details and sign up today!



Attendance Ladder

