



Rattlesden C of E Primary Academy

Believe Embrace Shine Together

'I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.' Philippians 4:13

Oak Class Curriculum Newsletter

Spring 2023



We hope you had a wonderful Christmas and are ready for the new term ahead! This term the staffing arrangements will remain the same as they were in the Autumn term. We are pleased to welcome a student teacher to Oak Class this term too.

This newsletter outlines the exciting and inspiring activities planned for your child that we hope will make their learning a rewarding and fun experience this term.

As always, we are available for brief messages in the morning or you may arrange a convenient time to meet with us after school. You can also stay in touch via your child's reading log, sharing assemblies and parents evening.

If you have any resources, expertise or knowledge of any trips or visits we could use that may help us with our topic this term then please do let us know.

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Mrs. Ling, Mrs. Jeffery and Mrs. Firth

Curriculum

English

This term our work in English will link to our topic. We will read and write a range of engaging texts linked to our learning about exploration and discovery. The children have personalised termly writing targets in their books to ensure progress. We will focus on continuing to develop a cursive script when handwriting and will use Letter Join resources.

They will take part in reading sessions where they will read as part of a group and much emphasis will be placed on developing reading comprehension skills. Your child will also read individually to an adult. The frequency of this depends on the needs of each child. Children are invited to choose books from home or from a selection available in class. The children will also have the opportunity to choose books from our library. Please ensure all school books are returned once your child has finished reading them so they are available for another child.

Spellings will be taught and learnt in school so there will be no weekly lists sent home to learn. However, we are still working on the children's ability to spell the list of high frequency words. Therefore, a personalised list will be sent home with your child to learn and they will be tested on these at various points throughout the term.

At home:

Access 'Letter Join' at home. The access details are in your child's reading log.

It is immensely beneficial for your child to read to an adult at home at least three times a week. It will have a positive impact on their reading and also their writing. To broaden the children's range of genres and to expand their vocabulary, why not choose a book, newspaper or magazine to read and discuss with your child?

Support your child to learn the high frequency words which will be sent home. You will also find a list of words that the children need to learn to spell in year 3 and 4 - please work on reading and then spelling these together.

Each week on a Thursday, a short English task will be sent home. The children should spend 10-15 minutes working on this. The work is to be handed in on the following Thursday. It needs to be completed in pencil please.

Maths

Planning is based on the Primary Curriculum and will build on skills and knowledge from year 2. This term, we will be mostly focusing on multiplication and division and fractions. Will will also cover length and perimeter and mass and capacity. We will be providing lots of opportunities for your children to use their knowledge and skills to solve problems and explain their reasoning.

The children are expected to recall all multiplication facts up to 12x12 by the end of year 4. Lots of focus on year 3 is on developing an instant recall of multiplication facts. The children will take part in regular times table challenges to improve knowledge of multiplication facts and move 'up the mountain'. Please see the reading logs for more detail about times tables.

At home:

Please help your child learn their tables. Short daily challenges/practice is best! Access Times Table Rockstars to help learn and practise multiplication tables. There are some useful tips and resources in your child's reading log. The log will also show your child's progress through the school 'times table mountain'.

Maths is such an important part of everyday life. There is so much maths learning which can be reinforced all the time at home for example, telling time, using coins, weighing and measuring. Please make the most of the opportunities everyday life offers!

There are a number of educational websites such as 'maths frame' and 'top marks' which are fun and very useful to aid understanding.

<p style="text-align: center;">Science</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Science is taught by Mrs Ballam and Miss Moore</p> <p>ANIMALS: SKELETONS & MUSCLES</p> <p>In this topic the children will identify that humans and some other animals have skeletons and muscles for support, protection and movement.</p> <p>SOUND</p> <p>The children will identify how sounds are made, associating some of them with something vibrating. They will recognise that vibrations from sounds travel through a medium to the ear. They will find patterns between the pitch of a sound and features of the object that produced it and find patterns between the volume of a sound and the strength of the vibrations that produced it. The children will also recognise that sounds get fainter as the distance from the sound source increases.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PSHE</p> <p>During the first half term the children will explore the question 'What are families like?'. They will understand how families differ from each other. They will discuss how common features of positive family life often include shared experiences, e.g. celebrations, special days or holidays. The children will learn how people within families should care for each other and the different ways they demonstrate this. They will also learn how to ask for help or advice if family relationships are making them feel unhappy, worried or unsafe.</p> <p>During the second half of the term, the children will consider the question - what makes a community? They will explore how they belong to different groups and communities, what is meant by a diverse community, and how different groups make up the wider/local community around the school. We will discuss how the community helps everyone to feel included and values the different contributions that people make. The children will learn how to be respectful towards people who may live differently to them.</p>
<p>Languages- French</p> <p>As well as continuing to become confident with numbers up to ten and days of the week, the children will develop the vocabulary for adjectives of size, shape and colour. Throughout this topic, they will continue to improve their knowledge of French phonemes, pronunciation and grammar through reading, writing and speaking and listening activities.</p>	<p>PE</p> <p>Please make sure that your child comes to school wearing their PE kit on PE days. PE will take place on a Monday (alternate weeks) and Thursday. To begin with, they will be taught netball and gymnastics then basketball and dance after half term. We will also continue our fitness work, developing the children's fitness and stamina for running.</p> <p>We are fortunate that a specialist sports coach, Mrs Porch, will teach the Monday lesson. The children will have PE on the following Mondays:</p> <p>Monday 9th January Monday 23rd January Monday 6th February HALF TERM Monday 27th February Monday 13th March Monday 27th March</p>
<p>Design Technology</p> <p>After half term, we will be linking our DT and RE learning. The children will have the opportunity to design, build and evaluate a Synagogue from recycled materials. The children will need a shoe box each and any other small cardboard boxes and tubes donations would be gratefully received.</p>	<p>Music</p> <p>The children will be introduced to carnival music and the music genre of Samba through exploring rhymes and pulse as well as composing and performing their own samba rhythms.</p>
<p>Computing</p> <p>In Computing this term, the children will be using unplugged activities (not using technology) and Scratch Jr on the ipads to become familiar with the terminology of programming and learn to use block programming to create algorithms (sequences of instructions) to control a sprite (character) to carry out planned tasks.</p> <p>We will also be looking at how to keep our information online secure and how to create a safe password.</p>	<p>RE</p> <p>We will begin our term, continuing with our Islam topic, learning about how Allah revealed himself through prophets and how Muslims learn about Allah through their holy book, The Qur'an.</p> <p>We will then move onto our Jewish topic of Holiness, where the children will learn about how Jews strive to move towards God through purity and good choices to this realm of God.</p>

History

Exploration and Discovery

This history topic will develop the children's knowledge and understanding of British history beyond 1066. They will learn more about how people's lives have shaped this nation and how Britain has influenced and been influenced by the wider world. They will continue to develop their understanding of historical concepts such as continuity and change, cause and consequence, similarity, difference and significance.

The children will study some of the key achievements of humankind and learn about significant turning points in British history, specifically the development of the railways. We will learn about significant explorers in history and some key discoveries and inventions which impact our lives today.

This term our threads are:

Key figures

Discoveries and inventions

Arts and Architecture

Art and Design

Our art work will be linked to other areas of the curriculum including our learning about exploration and discovery.

We will further develop the use of our sketch books to collect, record and evaluate ideas. We will study Leonardo Da Vinci and use sketchbooks to develop our drawing skills.

Our collage work will be inspired by polar explorers. We will use a range of collage techniques to create our own collage landscape. We would appreciate donations of resources to assist with this. Any sweet wrappers, papers, scraps of fabric etc in cool colours (purples and blues) would be helpful.