

What you can do at home to help:

- Continue to hear your child read at home, asking questions like:

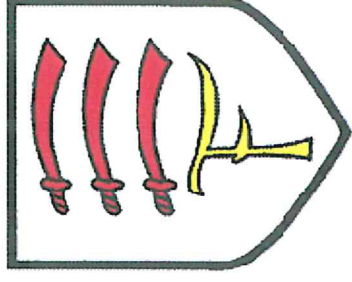
What do you think will happen to this character later on in the story?

How do you think the story will end?

Have you read a book like this before?

Which words are new to you? Why do you think the author chose that word?

- Continue to work on times tables (all times tables up to 12 x 12), including division facts.
- Keep on asking your child to add and take away numbers in his/her head.
- Teach your child the compass points up to 8 points (N, NE, E, SE, S, SW, W, NW)
- Play turn taking games.
- Visit your dentist for a check up in the first half term.
- Take a good look at your child's toothbrush with him/her and discuss how s/he needs to brush his/her teeth.
- Visit the library and borrow books on journeys.
- Talk about journeys they have made, either here in the UK or abroad.
- Look at maps, atlases, show the route of a journey on your sat nav.
- Talk about what you eat during the day and the healthy choices that you make for a balanced diet.
- If you have a pet, show your child what your pet eats, and how much food you have to buy for it each week. Ask your child to feed and look after the pet for a week.
- Look at electricity in the home. Show children that there are mains operated and battery operated items. Why both?

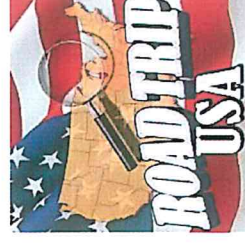


Year 4 Spring 2018

“Burps, Bottoms and Bile”



“Road Trip USA”



Burps, Bottoms and Bile will, we are certain, keep the children highly entertained! It is a science based topic and includes thinking about everything from dentistry and teeth to the ins-and-outs of the digestive system.

For the second half of the Spring term we will be immersing ourselves in the geographical topic entitled, '**Road Trip USA**' where children will have the opportunity to refine their map skills and to plan an imaginary road trip. They will also be researching NYC and watching video clips and documentaries in order to give them an impression of the atmosphere of the city.

Literacy

Through our '**Burps, Bottoms and Bile**' topic we will be focussing on fact files and posters, explanatory texts, imaginary narrative, slogans and persuasive texts. Then after half term and in conjunction with '**Road Trip USA**' we will be writing postcards, diary entries, myths and legends and poetry as well as learning to construct e-mails. All of our literacy will be taught through links to our current topic in the same way that we have done for the Autumn term.

Maths

In maths during the Spring term we will be looking at measurement and statistics— looking at food labels and their ingredients' as well as looking at the contents. We will continue learning number and place value; solving problems; perimeter and area; geometry and fractions. The children will be weighing and comparing bags representing the stomach capacities of humans and other animals.

Science

We will be asking the children to think about electricity and the devices and equipment that require electricity for power. The children will be constructing circuits using a range of components and switches. They will also be learning to sort and classify materials into those that are conductors and those that are insulators. As part of the '**Burps, Bottoms and Bile**' topic the children will be thinking about different teeth types, the causes of tooth decay and how we can maintain healthy teeth as well as what good tooth hygiene is. There will be an opportunity for us to learn about the digestive system and make comparisons between the digestive systems of a human and that of other animals.

Other curriculum areas

In **ICT** children will be thinking about digital images, databases, spreadsheets, and online research. As part of **history** we will be learning about Native Americans and for **geography** we will be considering using World and US maps as well as thinking about the human and physical geography of USA. In **art and design** we will be making Native American Dream catchers, having a go at weaving and in **D&T** the children will be focussing on healthy foods as well as making a working model of the digestive system. For **PHSE** the children will be thinking about expressing opinions, stereotypes and discrimination and healthy bodies. For **music** the children will be continuing their lessons with the Hounslow Music Trust.

Building Learning Power

Next term we will be continuing our learning on what makes us better learners and how we can evaluate how well we are learning.

From the BLP website: *Revising: Pupils need to learn how to deal with change, emotionally and practically. With an inflexible frame of mind they are unlikely to recognise the need to change their ideas or the way they do something. They also need to know what 'good' looks like; how to keep an eye on how things are going and evaluate how things went against external standards.*