



Class Newsletter – Year 5 – Spring 2019



English

During the term we will read and explore the following key text:

- 'Letter from the Lighthouse' by Emma Carroll

In English we will be learning to:

- ✓ Consider how we can make inferences about a character from their language and actions.
- ✓ Expand our writing, adding detail through the use of expanded noun phrases.
- ✓ Experiment with the structure of sentences by identifying subordinate clauses and changing their position.
- ✓ Develop our use of modal verbs to indicate degrees of possibility in different types of writing e.g. The government should consider...
- ✓ Edit and improve our own writing by proof reading and using resources such as dictionaries and thesauri.

Key English Skills to Practise & Learn

Practising the following key skills at home will help your child greatly:

- ✓ Encourage children to practise their weekly spellings and look for other words with the same spelling pattern.
- ✓ Support children in using a thesaurus to make adventurous word choices.
- ✓ Model and encourage the use of a dictionary to find the meaning of words that your child is unsure of.
- ✓ Encourage children to read at home and discuss their opinions about a text.
- ✓ Read with your child at least 3 times a week and record this in their planners.
- ✓ Read a wide variety of texts, not just narratives, to widen your child's reading experiences.

Mathematics

In Mathematics we will be learning to:

- ✓ Use written methods to solve multiplication and division problems.
- ✓ Understand how to 'unpick' questions and apply our knowledge of calculation to solve problems.
- ✓ Use diagrams (initially) to help us understand how we can write improper (top-heavy) fractions as a mixed number and vice versa.
- ✓ Develop our understanding of adding fractions with different denominators and write answers as a mixed number.

Key Maths Skills to Practise & Learn

Practising the following key skills at home will help your child greatly:

- ✓ Practise any times tables that your child cannot confidently recall in random order (please note that the national curriculum for Year 5 is based on the assumption that children are confident in their recall of multiplication facts up to 12 x 12). The 'Learning Zone' on the school website has games that you may find helpful.
- ✓ Use opportunities to practise real life maths e.g. telling the time, reading bus timetables, measuring out ingredients for a recipe.

Science

Our science topic this term is: 'Living Things and Their Habitats'.

During this we will be learning to:

- ✓ Describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird.
- ✓ Describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals.
- ✓ Describe the changes as humans develop to old age.
- ✓ Plan different types of scientific enquiries to answer questions, including recognising and controlling variables where necessary.

Science Facts to Learn

Help your child to explore and learn the following facts:

- ✓ <http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/science> is a website about different lifecycles that you can look at with your child.
- ✓ Identify examples in everyday life where life cycles are happening.
- ✓ Discuss the differences between different life cycles and also comparing how they are similar. E.g. humans and insects.

Topic

Our topic for this term is 'War of the Worlds'. Focusing on WW2 (1939-1945).

During these sessions we will be learning to:

- ✓ Discuss the chronology of World War II - where it should be placed on a timeline and the order of events during the War.
- ✓ Understand the difference between primary and secondary sources of evidence.
- ✓ Look closely at primary evidence and deduce what facts can be learned from it.
- ✓ Realise that some sources of evidence can contain biases and how these may impact our impressions of history.
- ✓ Understand how The War impacted the day-to-day life of civilians, including children.
- ✓ Use secondary sources of evidence.
- ✓ State how WW2 affected our local areas of Bath and Bristol.

Thinking About Our Topics

The following ideas will help your child explore our topic in greater depth:

- ✓ Look at atlases together to identify which countries were affected by World War II.
- ✓ Look in books or online for information about World War II. The BBC website is child friendly: http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primaryhistory/world_war2
- ✓ Research how Bath and Bristol in particular were affected by events such as The Blitz.
- ✓ Research areas such as evacuation and rationing.
- ✓ Topic based homework will further children's knowledge of WW2.
- ✓ Explore own families' experience of the war. E.g. Discuss family tree and relate back to the dates of WW2 (1939-1945).

Art / Design & Technology

Art sessions this term will focus on art of real life events (The Blitz) in the style of local Wilfred Stanley Haines.

During these sessions we will be learning:

- ✓ About the life of Wilfred Stanley Haines and learn what the inspiration for his art work was.
- ✓ To discuss our opinions on pieces of art and understand that views can differ.

D & T sessions this term will focus on rationing

During these sessions we will be learning to:

- ✓ Compare the foods we eat now to those in the 1940s and early 1950s.
- ✓ Evaluate recipes that were used in rationing times.
- ✓ Design, make and evaluate our own meal using rationed ingredients!

Computing

Our first unit will focus on 'Programming'.

During these sessions we will be learning to:

- ✓ Plan, debug and test algorithms and programs.
- ✓ Understand how to apply looping and repeats.
- ✓ Group commands to create procedures or sub-routines.
- ✓ Create a program to control on screen mimics and physical devices.
- ✓ The software that we will be exploring to develop our programming skills are: *Flowol 4* and *Scratch*.

Physical Education (PE)

PE sessions this term will be with our P.E coach, Mr Dyer. These sessions will be on a Monday afternoon. As these sessions will be mainly outside, please ensure that children have additional trousers and jumpers.

We will be focusing on:

- ✓ Team work and working collaboratively
- ✓ How to effectively warm up and stretch our bodies
- ✓ Focusing on tag rugby and looking at passing, tagging, footwork and positioning

Religious Education (RE)

Our RE topic this term is What would Jesus do? Can we live by the values of Jesus in the 21st century?

During these sessions we will be exploring:

- ✓ Jesus' teachings and how Christians follow his values today.
- ✓ The themes of love, forgiveness, justice, fairness and generosity and explore moral dilemmas in the Bible and how they relate to the world today.