



# Curriculum Newsletter

## Lower School — Spring 2022

Happy New Year to you all!

The children have settled in well to the new school term and we are looking forward to an exciting term with your children. This term, we will go on our second school trip of the year and the Y4 children will head to Calshot for their first school residential.

We are hoping for lots of cold and frosty weather and would ask that the children come prepared for the weather with coats, and hats and gloves when necessary, so that we can continue to enjoy break times and lunchtimes outside.

### English

We have started the spring term by writing volcano shape poems and will spend the rest of the half-term on a narrative unit based on pirates. Speech will be a key focus of this unit along with other important skills. In guided reading, we will continue to develop the skills needed to be good readers. Each half-term we will have a poetry focus and we are looking forward to exploring this fantastic genre with the children. Our library slot each week gives the children opportunity to try different authors and genres.

### PDL (Personal Development Learning)

In lower school this half-term, we will cover the unit 'Too much selfie isn't healthy'. As part of this learning we will explore how we should be kind to ourselves as well others.

We will continue to build upon our knowledge of metacognition and the learning powers to develop our skills as good learners.

### Maths

In maths, the children will start the year looking at geometry followed by an addition and subtraction unit where we will develop our written strategies before returning to fractions.

Number bonds and times tables are essential for good maths understanding, and they will be developing knowledge of these in class.

We would like the children to continue with this at home using TTRS.

### Knowledge & Understanding

In geography we will be learning about natural disasters and considering our key question 'How do natural disasters affect humans?' We will be developing our knowledge on reading maps so we can identify key parts of the world.

In science the children will be learning about electrical circuits.

Computing this half-term will focus on cyberbullying and ensure the children know how to keep themselves safe when on line.

In RE the children will learn about different leaders of world religions whilst also considering the qualities of effective leaders generally.



### Our Changing World

### Spanish

In Spanish this half-term we will be learning colours, numbers and shapes. We will use our knowledge of colour and shapes to describe art work created by the artist Miró before creating our own Miró inspired pieces.

### Being Creative

In DT we will be building earthquake warning systems using Lego kits.

In music the children will be learning about pitch and structure. They will compose their own melodic patterns and record these using simple notation.

Kenya class will be learning how to play different the keyboard through the Hampshire music scheme Listen 2 Me. Sri Lanka will take part in this learning in the summer term.

### Physical Education

In the first half of the term the children will be learning the Hakka dance and will complete a gymnastics unit.

### Extended Learning

Children should be reading to an adult at least 5 times a week and this should be recorded in their reading record book. Spellings come home on a Monday, ready for testing the following week and we would like your child to use the Times Table Rockstars resource to keep practising <https://trockstars.com> **Topic home learning for this half-term will follow shortly.**

We have recently booked a school trip for spring 2 to support our topic on the rainforests. **Look out for more details in the coming weeks.**