



Curriculum Newsletter

UPPER SCHOOL - Autumn 2020

English

In English, we started our learning this year by completing a short, whole school unit of work writing a narrative based on the Dream Tree from the BFG. We are now reading the text 1001 Arabian nights and writing non-chronological reports on how to look after a genie and a narrative.

Later in the term we will study the Highwayman poem and the book 'Skellig'

In guided reading we will develop the skills needed as a good reader using a range of different text drivers.

We will be encouraging a love for reading by listening to class readers and also reading frequently within class.

Knowledge & Understanding

Science We will study the circulatory system and understand that the heart is a muscle responsible for providing the body with oxygen and sugar and transporting waste products. We will also learn about sound and how different vibrations create different pitch and volume.

RE We will be learning about the importance of Umma (community) for the Islamic faith and how the term prophecy was significant in the Christmas story.

Geography We will consider the key question 'Would you prefer to live in Denmead or Zamora and compare the similarities and differences between these two parts of the world.'

History Our history unit after half-term will focus on the Mayans.

PDL

Initially our learning in PDL will focus around our experiences during school closure and our thoughts, feeling and worries surrounding the current situation.

Through the programme HeartSmart we will learn the skills needed to be a good leader, the impact our words can have on ourselves and others and how pressure can have a positive and negative impact on our lives.



Spanish We will revisit some key ideas such as the alphabet, phonics and numbers before learning about 'The Day of the Dead' later this term.

Maths

This term we will continue to develop speed and accuracy of a range of different calculation strategies focussing initially on addition and subtraction, and using these skills we will solve perimeter problems.

Later in the term, we will deepen our knowledge on fractions, decimals and percentages.

Solving problems in a variety of ways and explaining our mathematical thinking will continue to be a key part of our learning.

Rapid recall of multiplication and division facts is essential.

Being Creative

Art We will complete a textile unit learning how the Mayans told stories through their weaving and also study a modern artist - Victoria Villasana.

Music We will be recording our own compositions using musical notation.

Computing We will revisit the importance of staying safe online before completing learning about coding and digital literacy.

DT We hope to design, cook and evaluate Mexican food.

Physical Education

This term the key sports will be athletics and handball. Later in the term the children will complete a unit of gymnastics and Salsa dancing.

Get Involved!

Please encourage your child to read at least 5 times a week and bring in their signed reading record. We will continue to be holding our book raffle.

Telling the time and knowing multiplication facts and division facts for the tables up to 12 x 12 are essential skills and can be practised at home.

Web links (maths resources/games)

<http://resources.woodlands.kent.sch.uk>

<https://trockstars.com>—your child should know their log in

Key Information

Please ensure your child wears PE clothing to school on their designated PE days. Please refer to the school website to ensure that the PE clothing worn by your child is correct.

Please remind your child to bring their water bottles in to keep well hydrated through the day.