



Curriculum Newsletter

Lower School - Autumn 2020

We have had a good start to the new academic year and the children have settled well into the new routines that we are following in light of present circumstances.

Each class will spend time learning about their class country and we are looking forward to developing this knowledge over the coming months. We would be keen to share any information your child finds out about their country.

We will be using a variety of creative learning experiences to build on and enrich the pupils' learning, including using Google Expeditions to travel through time and explore places never visited, on Earth and beyond

English

Like the rest of the school, we have started our English learning by using our knowledge from last year to describe a short, imaginative scene from the film of 'The BFG'. We are using the book 'Stone Age Boy' to write a time-slip narrative moving backwards in time and using powerful description.

Following on from that we will be using our knowledge of instructional writing based around the book 'How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth' to write instructions of a Stone Age theme, as well as learning about the presentation of non-fiction writing and writing our own reports on Stone Age tools.

Knowledge & Understanding

In science we will first complete a unit of work on materials followed after half term by a unit on rocks and soils.

As part of our computing learning, we will extend our knowledge on how to stay safe online and complete units of learning on using word processing programs and coding. In RE, we have completed a unit on trees as symbols and have been exploring the trees in the school grounds and within the Christian faith. Each class has chosen a class tree to study throughout the year.

During the course of the term, we will study the Stone Age through to the Iron Age in history.

PDL

Getting to know each other has been the initial focus for PDL learning this half term.

We will consider why each of us is special and learn how to talk about our emotions and how different feelings can affect our behaviour.

As part of our PDL learning and anti-bullying week, we will learn the difference between bullying and unkind behaviour and recognise how to solve friendship problems peacefully.

Maths

We are starting the year by looking at place value and using resources to make 2 and 3 digit numbers. We have been developing our use of mathematical language to solve problems and will be moving onto solving addition and subtraction calculations in a variety of ways. We will be working on developing fluency in number bonds and multiplication tables and would be grateful for any additional practice at home.

Being Creative

The art this half term will link directly with our history topic and we will research and design cave paintings.

In DT, after half term, we will be designing and building mechanical cards using pulleys and levers.

We will be using unconventional musical instruments to compose, rehearse and perform Stone Age music. This will include body percussion as well as simple materials that they will have used at that time.

Iron Age Rocks!



Spanish

We will learn about the location of Spain in relation to the UK and our class countries in Europe. We will learn to talk about our feelings in Spanish and develop our counting skills.

Physical Education

Before half term, the children will develop a range of ball skills and athletic skills. After half term, PE will focus on gym and dance skills.

Home Learning

Children should be reading to an adult every day and this should be recorded in their reading record book. In the near future, Spellings will be sent home on a Monday and will be tested the following Monday. We will also send out topic home learning and times tables to practise in due course. As we cannot use school trips as we have in previous years there are lots of fantastic websites and local places to visit linked to our topic should you and your child wish to extend your knowledge on this great topic.