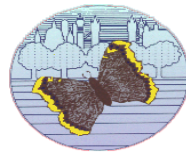


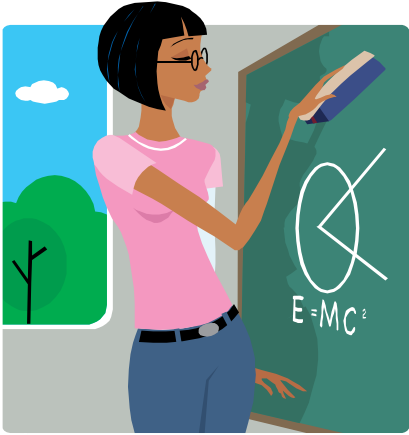
TERMtalk



CURRICULUM NEWS

FOR THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Issued termly Year 6 Spring 2022



Maths

In the first half of the term we will be exploring number, the concept of estimation, partitioning and calculation using the four operations of +, -, x and ÷, building on what they learned in the Autumn term.



In addition to this the children will look at working with negative numbers and using them in the context of everyday life—such as in temperature and with money. The children will also have the opportunity of consolidating the knowledge they gained last year about Roman Numerals.

The children will also be given a range of challenging problems which involve estimation, multi-step calculations and being able to explain the strategies they have used. Following on from this, the children will improve their knowledge of the properties of 2-D and 3-D shapes. This will increase children's knowledge of the properties of a shape in terms of size of internal angles, parallel and perpendicular lines.

In the second half of the term the children will continue to undertake a wide range of problem solving challenges through a range of topics. These include **statistics**, **geometry and measures**. There will be a great emphasis on children being able to explain, using mathematical terms, the strategies they have used in order to solve a problem.

We ask all parents to support their children with the Maths and ensure they are confident knowing, using and applying times tables.

Science

This term the children will start by continuing with the topic **Animals including Humans**. The children will be given the opportunity to identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system and explain the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood. As well as learning about how the body works we will also be looking at the importance of diet, exercise and lifestyle and the effects that these can have on our bodies and how they function. To conclude the topic we will look at how the nutrients and water is transported through both human and animal bodies, to keep us functioning properly.

Following this topic we will move on to look at **Evolution and Inheritance**. They will be learning about scientists such as Charles Darwin and Alfred Wallace and looking at their theories of evolution. They will then discover how animals and plant adapt to fit their surroundings and in order for them to survive.

This topic will be linked with the geography work on rainforest biomes, and the children will learn how plants and animals flourish in these tropical areas.

Here are some useful websites for you to use:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z2pfb9q>

<https://wowscience.co.uk/>

English

For the first part of the term, the children will be reading and working on the visually stunning and informative picture book **Can We Save the Tiger?** Written by the author **Martin Jenkins**. This book tells us all about the world's endangered animals.

The children will use the book as a springboard to writing a non chronological report based on a chosen animal. Also, they will be writing discussion texts focusing on other endangered animals as well as an explanation text.

After this, we will be reading and creating work based upon the book **The Boy in the Tower by Polly Ho Yen**. We will be producing a range of work ranging from formal letters to journalistic and narrative writing.

Following this book, for the second part of the term, children will be writing cross curricular non-fiction reports, connected to their RE work on Buddhism, and geography work on rainforests.

After this, children will be reading and working on the wonderful novel **Kensuke's Kingdom**, written by **Michael Morpurgo**. As well as understanding the story, children will be writing predictions about what could happen and studying new vocabulary.

Using the book as inspiration, we will be writing letters and diary entries in role as different characters. We will also use Kensuke as a stimulus for non-fiction writing such as a discussion text listing the advantages and disadvantages of a round the world trip.

Alongside this English work the children will also be completing **spelling and grammar work**. Each week they will cover a different grammar objective and will be encouraged to include what they have learned in their written work throughout the week.

Other Subjects



Geography

This term, the children will be linking their geography, science and English topic work by studying **rainforests**.

Firstly, children will be identifying tropical rainforest areas on a world map, and locating the **Equator** and the **Tropics of Cancer** and **Capricorn**. They will then watch DVDs of rainforest areas in order to identify and describe rainforest features such as **climate and humidity, seasons, vegetation** and **eco systems**

Next, the children will learn about the characteristics of the **four layers** of the rainforests: the emergent layer, the canopy, the understorey and the forest floor. They will find out about the vegetation, insects, birds and animals which live in each layer, and how they depend on one another. They will research and write about different **rainforest animals**, such as tigers and **orang-utans**.

Children will also learn about the ways rainforests are **useful to humans**, for instance by providing oxygen, and products such as food, shampoo and medicines. They will learn how rainforest biomes are under threat due to **deforestation**.

Children will be using atlases as well as electronic to find information on the landscape of south America and the topography of the countries within it.

Later in the term, children will focus on the features of the **Amazon** rainforest in **South America**. They will locate the **River Amazon** and the country of **Brazil** on a map, and research the way of life in Brazil. You can help your child improve their geographical knowledge and understanding by looking at different types of maps, and discussing how to read them and how to use the map key. You can discuss any tropical areas you may have visited yourselves, and watch internet clips of rainforest regions and animals together.

R.E.

Our first topic this term is Exploring the Mass. In this topic we will be learning about the importance of faith and how the Israelites placed all their faith in Moses and God to liberate them from the tyranny of Egyptian

slavery. The children will also be exploring the significance of the many religious objects used during the Mass and creating a mass booklet for Year 3 and 4 to use. During this time we will also visit Sacred Heart Church to learn about the significance of the holy objects used in Mass and the significance of the vestments colours. We will also learn about how God's love feeds us, which relates to us receiving the Body and Blood of Christ when we receive Communion.

Our second topic will be Jesus the Messiah. We will be exploring the miracles which led people to believe that Jesus was the Son of God and what this means to us. As we explore the events leading up to his death, the children will reflect on Jesus' actions during Holy Week and discuss the impact this has on us. We will also consider the importance of Jesus' Death and Resurrection and reflect on how Jesus' sacrifices changed our lives.



Computing

In our computing work this term, we will be developing key skills, again linked to maths, using spreadsheets. We will be using Microsoft Excel to input formulas to create mathematical solutions and use variable 'if' statements.

For the second half of term, we will be looking at using Google Earth and the Internet to research work based around our geography topic 'Rainforests'.

In using Google Earth, we will be plotting the location of different rainforests of the world .



Art

This term the children will be linking their work in art to our topic 'Rainforests'.

They will be looking at various rainforest animals using a variety of techniques to observe and draw specific ones. These will include tigers, toucans and parrots, brightly coloured frogs and snakes, and orang-utans. Displays of the completed work will be up outside the classrooms.

After this, they will explore and replicate the work of Henri Rousseau. This work will again link to our topic on rainforests.

Other Subjects



Physical Education

This term we will be focusing on football, handball and basketball in our games lessons.

All children will get an opportunity to try all these sports on rotation.

We will be looking at building up the children's skills in these areas and will be entering a variety of competitions linked to these games.

PE Kit

Please note:

The correct PE kit must be worn at all times.

This consists of a plain white T-shirt and plain navy blue shorts or P.E. skirt. A plain navy blue track-suit may be worn for outdoor games during winter.

Please ensure that your child also wears trainers or plimsolls, which are the correct size!

Also, children are required to wear trainers on the day they will complete the daily mile as a year group.

Please can they bring their normal school shoes with them so that they can change into them afterwards.

Music

The children will be continuing to work with a specialist teacher from the Southwark Music Service in their weekly music lessons. In these sessions, they will walk the pulse in compound time and follow hand signs to DRMFSLT and Doh.

Also, they will learn 3 new songs, some with staff notation. Children will also be taught to improvise vocally using DRMFSLT and Doh in compound and simple time. They will also be introduced to Grade 1 ABRSM theory. They will be introduced to and understand staff notation, treble and bass clefs and names of notes in the spaces and lines.

As well as this, they will play simple songs from staff notation on glocks and chime bars. Finally, they will listen to a variety of Western Classical Music from different time periods.

Homework

Homework tasks are given to consolidate your child's learning. It is essential that all children are given support with all their homework; this includes learning to spell the words on their weekly spelling list and the work set on MyMaths, TT Rockstars and Spag.com.

Parents are also expected to hear their child read every evening and sign their reading diary.

Homework is given out on Friday and handed in on the following Monday or as stated by the class teacher.

Citizenship

Our PHSE work this term will focus around Justice. This links in with work we carried out last term in RE.

The children will be considering what is fair and unfair and how we can work together and take the opinions and views of others into consideration.

As well as this, the children will be looking at the rights of a child, together with considering the rights and roles of others in both the community and the wider world.

Furthermore, they will also be looking at the idea of British Values and what it means to be a good citizen.

In doing this, there will be lots of discussion work as well as debates to give the children the chance to voice their thoughts as well as listen to the opinions of others.

Whole Class Reading

This will provide the children with the opportunity of taking a closer look at particular sections of the text. This will include looking at the language structure, style of writing, choice of vocabulary or what has been revealed about plot or character. All children will benefit from regular opportunities for small-group reading, discussion and writing with a teacher or teaching assistant.