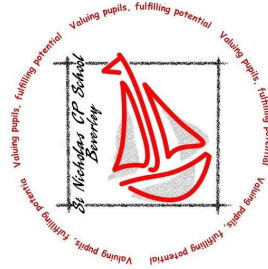


Year 3/4 Curriculum Newsletter Spring Term 2024

English

We will teach writing using Talk For Writing, looking at fantasy tales with a focus on settings. Children will progress to independently writing their own fantasy story based on our shared text, 'The Magician's Shop'. During the second half of the term, we will be looking at fear stories with a focus on suspense using the text, 'Zelda Claw and The Rain Cat' as our stimulus. Our non-fiction writing will be based on discussion texts. Children will use a range of question prompts to discuss and write about a topic of their choice. We will continue to teach grammar and punctuation through Talk For Writing, and spelling through our new spelling schemes, 'Little Wandle' and 'No Nonsense Spelling'. Weekly handwriting sessions will be taught through our Penpals scheme.



We hope this newsletter provides you with some useful information about the curriculum areas that Y3/4 children will be covering this term.

If you have any concerns or queries please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

Kind Regards,

Miss Wilson, Mr Horsley & Miss Booth

Maths

During the spring term, we will continue to follow our Power Maths scheme. We will be learning about multiplication & division, fractions & decimals, length & area. We will carry out daily practice sessions of the times tables, and we ask that you continue to support your child to learn and practise their times tables at home too.

Reading

During this term, we will build upon key reading skills such as; prediction, inference and summarising. We will teach reading daily, focusing on highly engaging picture books and texts. Children will also be given the opportunity to read and respond to a range of poetry. Children will have the opportunity to read their own books quietly within class time and your child's teacher will read a carefully selected class novel daily. Each week, the children will visit our wonderful library and take home a book of their choice. Every classroom has a range of recommended books for that year group, which the children are also encouraged to choose from. Reading diaries will be checked on a weekly basis and your child's reading success will be celebrated using our reading reward scheme of coloured wrist bands.



Computing

In our computing lessons, we will be learning about programming using Scratch. We will also be learning about data logging through the use of spreadsheets.



Home Learning

Class teachers will continue to set weekly home learning based on what is being taught in class. Fortnightly spellings (linked to handwriting) will also be given to practise at home but we will no longer be testing these in school. We ask that you continue to read with your child at home as often as possible to help us promote reading for pleasure, and practise times tables regularly with your child. Please also encourage your child to use the online educational sites which they have logins for (i.e. Times Table Rockstars/Reading Plus).

Religious Education and PSHE

This term we will be studying the topic 'People Who Inspire Us' looking at the question, 'Who, What and When?'. By the end of this unit, the children should have a good understanding of the key events in the lives of at least two key religious figures; they should also be able to talk about some key teachings.

During our PSHE Jigsaw lessons, we will be following the whole-school themes of 'Dreams and Goals' and 'Healthy Me'.

PE

During the spring term, pupils will learn a range of basketball skills, such as; throwing and catching, dribbling, ball control and tactical play. In badminton and tennis, they will develop their racket skills, footwork and attack and defence skills to use in a full match. We will also be focusing on personal fitness through circuit training sessions.

Tigers Trust will be delivering some of these sessions along with the support of the class teacher.

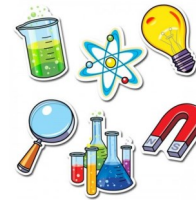
Y3/4 will also be participating in a range of teambuilding games with Commando Joe for the first half of the spring term.

Please check Class Dojo for PE days.

Science

This half term, our topic is 'Good Vibrations'. The children will explore how sound is made and travels through a variety of investigations.

Following this, we will be exploring the topic, 'How Does Your Garden Grow?'. Children will learn all about plants: their key parts; what they need to grow effectively; plant reproduction and the life cycle of a plant.



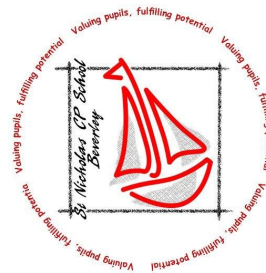
French

We will continue revising numbers 1-31 and French maths. Children will learn dates including how to say when their birthday is and explore birthday traditions in France. We will listen to, read and understand basic phrases and/or questions. We will write and give verbal descriptions of ourselves, revising parts of the face, body, colours and adjectival agreements. Children will practise speaking short pre-prepared phrases on a familiar topic. We will be learning how to write several short phrases or sentences from memory and participate in the re-telling of simple stories, songs, rhymes or poems. We will be exploring typical customs and traditions in France.



Art

We will be studying the works of Andy Warhol and in particular his Pop Art technique. We will look at how he used printmaking to make images such as Coke bottles and tins of soup. We will use this printmaking technique to create our own printing block with an image from modern culture. We will then repeat this image in different colours to create a piece of artwork.



Music

This term, we will continue to follow our exciting scheme 'Charanga'. Our learning will focus around the song, 'Stop!' - a rap/song about bullying. The children will learn about the interrelated dimensions of music through games, singing and composing.

Following on from this, our learning will focus on the song, 'Lean On Me' - a soul/gospel song by Bill Withers. We will use an integrated approach to music where games, the interrelated dimensions of music (pulse, rhythm, pitch etc.), singing and playing instruments are all linked.



Learning in our theme of 'Where in the World?'

Subject Specific Vocabulary

Areas of the world we will focus on: Europe (Greece, Italy, Germany, Poland, Spain, Great Britain)

Features we will looking at: cliff, airport, beach, hill, train station, bus station, dentist, church, crossing, hospital, house, junction, shop, vets

European	Anything that belongs to or has a link with Europe.
Ordnance survey symbols	OS symbols are used to represent different features on the landscape, such as buildings, roads, rivers, and forests.
Region	An area or part of a country or the world having certain characteristics.
Feature	Geographic features include things that can be classified as locations, sites, areas or regions.
Leisure	What people do in their free time.
Physical feature	Physical Features are the natural features on the Earth's surface. They can also be called "Landforms".
Human feature	Human features are things made or built by humans like cities, houses, roads, bridges and ports.
Briton	A person who comes from Britain.
Rural	Rural places are where few people live. They do not tend to have many buildings. These tend to be villages or hamlets.
Urban	Urban areas are places where lots of people live and they are highly developed with many buildings, roads, railways and bridges. These tend to be cities and towns.



Knowledge and Facts

Europe is 1 of the 7 continents of the world. It is made up of different countries. Great Britain is 1 of the 44 countries in Europe. Each country has features that are both similar and different. These can be divided into 2 groups: physical (occurring naturally) and human (created by humans). Maps can help us identify the location of countries within Europe and the features that you will find there. The map that is commonly used globally is the **Ordnance Survey map**. Each feature on a map is represented by a symbol. Each map has a grid which is made up of vertical and horizontal lines. These lines have a number which helps us locate different features on the map.

Exciting Linked Books

Illegal
 Malala Yousafzai
 Nicky and Vera



Learning in our theme of *Anglo Saxons*

Subject Specific Vocabulary

invasion	An invasion is the movement of an army into a region, usually in a hostile attack that's part of a war or conflict.	witan	An advisor to the King or ruler
Wessex	The name Wessex means 'Land of the West Saxons'.	kingdom	A piece of land ruled by the
war-chief	Each group of Anglo-Saxons had a war-chief	Mercia	One of the 3 main kingdoms of Anglo Saxon Britain
archeologist	Archaeologists study things that people made, used, and left behind. It helps us understand what people of the past were like and how they lived.	Danelaw	Part of England still ruled by the Danes
Settle/ment	the settling of people in a new country or place.	outlawed	A person not following the law
Anglo-Saxon	Anglo-Saxon came to be used for all people living in England, as the Angles, Saxons and Jutes mixed with other invaders and the origi-	chronical	A historical account



Knowledge and Facts

The Angles, Saxons and Jutes were tribes who came from northern Europe and Scandinavia - from places that we now call northern Germany and Denmark. They came mainly to farm the land as their land was flooding. The Anglo-Saxon period in Britain lasted approximately six centuries from 410-1066AD. The period used to be known as the Dark Ages, However, most historians now use the terms 'early middle ages' or 'early medieval period'. It was a time of war, of the breaking up of the Roman Empire, of religious wars and of continual battles against a new set of invaders: the Vikings. The various Anglo-Saxon groups settled in different areas of the country. They formed several kingdoms, often changing, and constantly at war with one another.



Exciting Linked Books

Anglo Saxon Boy
 Beowulf
 Winter of the Wolves
 The Princess who hid in a Tree