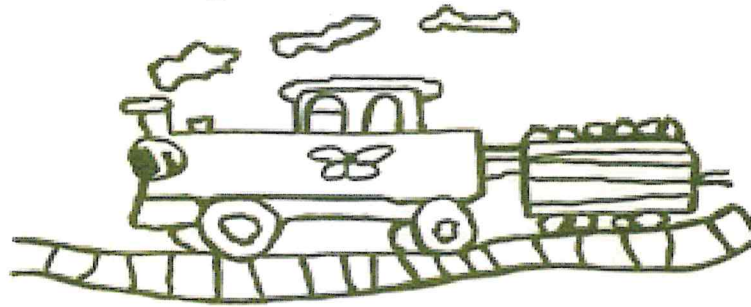


Grange View C.E



First School

Welcome to this half terms
Topic Information letter
for Willow and Chestnut
Class
Mrs Chapman
& Miss Belk



Feel the Force

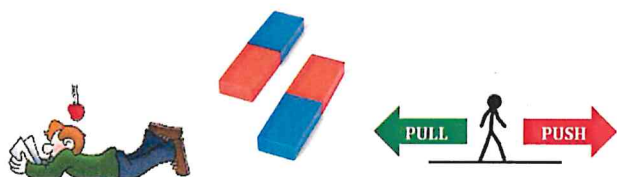
Autumn Half Term (2)

Numeracy

Following a successful first term embedding place value and using these skills to help mentally add and subtract numbers together. This term we will be continuing our written addition and subtraction procedures as well as establish a written method for multiplication. Fluency Friday, will continue with the children learning and becoming faster at their times tables. It is during this term that we will collect all our reasoning and problem solving evidence for multiplication and division and hopefully continue to become masters of maths.

Science

Our big theme this term is forces so science will be playing a large role in our cross curricular learning. We will be focusing upon a range of different forces and how they affect our everyday lives. The children will have lots of opportunities to take part in and design their own experiments gaining first hand knowledge of using a wide range of scientific equipment and measuring devices. Throughout this topic we will be focusing upon different methods of recording their results using bar charts, tables and graphs. Children will be encouraged to reflect on their learning through the evaluation process of the different investigations as well as beginning to understand the importance of making a prediction and ensuring it is a fair test.



Music - Steel Pan Drums Mondays

As part of our Music connections, the children have been learning to play the Djembe Drums. Since September, our percussion teacher has been coming into school each week and teaching us. So watch this space for a show stopping performance in our school hall!



Literacy

Reading

During this half term children will read in a variety of situations throughout the week at school in a shared whole class session, in a small group guided session, one to one with an adult and also independently. The children will look at a range of different poetry as well as a selection of non fiction texts to support our feel the force topic. .

Writing

The children will write in the following genres: Persuasive texts - identifying the key features and creating their text to show their knowledge and understanding of the persuasive language. Towards the end of the term we will be exploring different types of poetry and the children will be creating their own poems based on the end of term themes.

Each week the children will have the opportunity to develop their own writing style during a creative 'big writing' session. The children will be given a specific topic focus then given time to create their own piece of extended independent writing - using their personal targets as a guide to know what they need to include to continually improve their writing. They will learn to improve their sentence structure, grammar and punctuation as well as continuing to write neatly.

Speaking & Listening

Children will encounter a variety of speaking and listening opportunities. Presenting information they have collected to their class and using clarity and confidence to say their play lines for the Nativity.

MFL - French - Then and Now

As part of their language learning the children will be practising and learning basic skills such as saying numbers, describing places and using adjectives in French.



PE - Dance. Monday and Thurs/Fri

As the weather is now changing, the children will be doing PE inside based on a Dance unit. This will involve the class creating sequences of movements to music and working individually, in pairs and small groups to combine gymnastic skills into their own choreography.



Swimming is taught by qualified swimming coaches at Morpeth Leisure Centre every Thursday morning, the children are always supervised by school staff.

Geography, History

Despite this topic being mainly focused on Science, we are using the opportunity to visit and study a local area.



The children will go on a trip to the National Glass Centre in Sunderland. Whilst there they will create their own glass work, research the history of glass as a trade in Sunderland and learn about artists who work through the medium of glass. Before lunch they will even get to see forces in action while glass is blown and created in the workshop!

PSHE

The theme this half term is 'Getting on and Falling out'.

During circle time discussions they will be discussing and determining how to be a good friend. They will also learn how to detect triggers for anger and how to manage it as well as become peaceful problem solvers to help their role as playground buddies.

ICT - E safety, Scratch, makey makey and excel

At the start of the term the children will be given a recap on the importance of safety, reporting incidents and staying safe online. Most importantly they will be reminded of keeping their passwords private, and not sharing personal information online.



This term we are starting something new, the children will be extending their knowledge of control and programming by using a program called Scratch to create series of instructions to make things happen on screen. It is also available online and as an app so no doubt this fun will continue at home! The children have access to a range of other ICT equipment including digital cameras, DS's, ipads, flip video cameras and the interactive whiteboard which they use to support their learning on a daily basis.

Art/DT - Glass art , model making using mechanisms



In art the children will be exploring different glass artists and using their techniques and skills to replicate their own glass window design. Whilst in DT they will be using their knowledge of forces to create their own replica theme park ride, considering the mechanisms that will be needed to create it.

RE - Christmas - Light



Throughout this topic the children explore the Christian concept of Jesus the 'Light of the World' and the multi-faceted metaphor of bringing light into people's lives.

As Christmas is approaching fast we will be talking about this Christian festival in detail and practicing our Nativity play!

Homework

Reading - Children will be bringing home their home reading books during the week. It would be helpful if you could either write or sign the book to say you have heard them read, it helps us to avoid repeat reading the same pages. **Group Reading** takes place each week in class, the children will be given a set number of pages to read for their next weekly session. Please sign their book once they have read them. Additionally the children may bring home a third book that they have taken out of the library on our Friday visit.

Spellings and Times Tables - Children will be given differentiated spellings to learn for their weekly spelling test on a Friday morning. Please help your child as much as possible learn these words as they will help with their confidence and fluency as both a reader and writer. They will also have a specific times table to focus on within Times Table Rock Stars - the participation so far has been excellent and shows great improvements in the pupils speed.

Maths / English Homework - Children will be given some Maths homework on Mathletics each Friday that needs to be completed by the following Friday morning for class dojo rewards. The maths homework is usually linked to the work they have done that week in Numeracy and should be appropriate for them to complete independently. Once a term they will also be given a short writing task to complete in their purple home writing books, the focus of which will be written in their books along with the date for it to be handed in. Usually they have about three weeks to do the writing. The thought process behind this writing, is for your child to work on their ideas and sentence construction with you, in the hope that they will learn new phrases and ideas which they can then use in their everyday writing in class.

Thanks for your help and continued support

Parental Help/Resources

We would very much appreciate your help/skills/resources that would link to any of our topics for this and the following half term throughout the year. If you feel that you could help us and your children out in any way please contact school and let us know.

Swimming

We would be grateful if you could please ensure your child's clothes are clearly labelled with their name. This is especially helpful when we go swimming, as there are occasions when clothes do get mixed up, or are left in the changing rooms. Could parents also ensure they have their swimming hats, and pierced ears need to have the earrings removed. If you are available to help any

Wednesday Afternoon with swimming please get in touch, the more helpers the better!

Forest School / PE Kits

Classes will be using the forest area whenever possible, we have waterproof trousers which we provide for each child but please ensure that their wellies and warm winter coat /hat / gloves are in school so that are comfortable.

We are intending to do PE on Monday afternoons, so please ensure that they have their PE Kits as well as appropriate footwear in school on these days.

Home Time

If you need to change the usual arrangements for picking up your child from school, please let school know as soon as possible. As you will understand we cannot allow children to leave the school premises unless we have permission from parents or carers.