

Grange View C.E



First School

Welcome to this half terms Topic
Information letter for Willow and
Year 3

Mrs Timmins and Miss Conroy



Mysterious Mayans

Spring Half Term (1)

Numeracy;

Year 3 are continuing with the Multiplication and division unit covering multiplying and dividing by 2, 5, 10, 3, 4 and 8. They will continue to develop problem solving and reasoning skills throughout every lesson.

Year 4 are looking at multiplying and dividing by 1, 2 and 3 digit numbers including looking at written method and choosing the most efficient method. Our reasoning and problem solving are embedded within every maths lesson.

Science - *Healthy and balanced diets*

Our big theme this term is Mysterious Mayans, hence our learning is predominantly focused on the History of the civilization and it's location in the world. However we will be using their food and crops as a vehicle to look at balanced diets and select healthy food choices to design Maya suitable meals.



Within the forest school we will be looking at different parts of plants and flowers and learning about the requirements for life and growth. We all also be learning about dangers to living things when there are changes to the environment.

Music - *Violins Thursday afternoons*

As part of our Music connections, all children in Year 4 have been learning to play the violin this year. We have a full hour lesson every Thursday. We currently can play a few songs on our violins.



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 stories during carpet time as well as stories from different cultures linked to our topic and continue to enjoy reading books from our reading spine.

Writing

The children will write in the following genres; Stories from other cultures and simple poetry. They will learn to improve their sentences particularly focusing on adverbs and appropriate adjectives within sentences, as well as continuing to work through their spellings in a weekly test.

Speaking & Listening

Children will be presenting information they have collected to their class and through team building activities in Forest School.

Art / DT - *Frederick Catherwood & hieroglyphics*

We are hoping to have a visiting artist work with us in class this term. However additionally the children will be designing their own Mayan God, recreating hieroglyphs for a special purpose next term and studying other artists.



PE - Gymnastics TUESDAYS

For PE we are using the large apparatus in the hall to practise our gymnastics skills. This includes balancing and simple floor routines for them to perform in groups. Lots of our works includes building confidence when climbing or using the new apparatus.



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

RE - How do Christians show their love of God?



The children will be looking at how Christians show their love of God. This includes learning about saints and 'saintliness' and involves discussions about what makes a saint and could we aim to become saints. The children will learn stories from the bible that link with this topic.

ICT -logo, control and Roamer



To link with their work in Numeracy on right angles and directions, the children will be working in and out of the computer suite to create instructions. These will command an electronic turtle or robot to move around a screen, on a map or draw shapes.

PSHE



The theme this half term is 'Living in the Wider World.' The children will be learning about rules and the law, managing money, setting ourselves goals and how data is used and managed online.

Geography / History

Within our topic the children will study the area of Mexico, considering what they would take their on holiday based on it's climate and where the different settlements were in the area of Mexico.



For their history, they will chronological order and explain events in time as well as research facts about Chichen Itza,, part of which they touched on last term in mega structures work. They will find similarities between the food, housing and clothing of other periods of history such as the stone age and will study their gods, rituals, writing and love of chocolate!!!!!!!!

SPAG skills

SPAG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) has become an increased focus for all schools as part of the new government curriculum. We will be learning a variety of useful tools, language and skills for this each day such as plural endings, what nouns, verbs and conjunctions are and how to use an apostrophe.



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 with their class teacher and TA, 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 - 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.

Maths Homework - Mathematics homework will continue to be set weekly for children to access at home. There is also a big focus currently on times tables and being fluent with them. Therefore the homework in KS2 is that children need to access Times Tables Rock Stars at home. They each have their own log ins and should be using it to practise at home. The program automatically sets questions at their pace and level. We ask that the children focus on the Studio and Sound check games on the app. Please let us know if you have any difficulties accessing this at home.

Thanks for your help and continued support

Swimming (Year 3 and 4)

We would be grateful if you could please ensure your child's clothes are clearly labeled 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

Willow Class will be using the **Forest area** on a **Thursday** afternoon and **PE** on Tuesdays.

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.

As with our COVID regulations, please can you send your child to school in their kit on a Tuesday so they do not need to get changed.



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.