

# Grange View C.E



# First School

Welcome to this half terms Topic  
Information letter for Willow

**Mrs Timmins and Miss Conroy**



## Marvellous

## Mega structures

Autumn Half Term (2)



## Numeracy

Year 4s key focus this half term the children will be multiplication, division, length and perimeter. The children will be increasing their fluency of multiplication and division. Year 3 will be continuing with addition and subtraction, increasing their fluency. Both classes will also looking into problem solving and reasoning when answering their questions. They will learn mental and formal written methods so they can decide what is the most efficient method to calculate their answers. We will continue to be focusing lots on our times tables to ensure that we are really fluent with our times tables up to  $12 \times 12$ . We ask that you continue to use Times Table Rock Stars at home to help with their skills.

## Art/DT - Making mega structures & architectural sketches

In art the children will be sketching using architectural techniques their favourite mega structures from around world and then using water colour paints to add colour and shading.

Children will also research famous architects and look at the buildings from around the world. We will be considering what an architect has to do in their job and why is it so important.



After studying, sketching and learning about a range of mega structures around the world, the children will use their knowledge of materials to choose appropriate equipment and resources to plan, produce and then evaluate their own model mega structure. Their mega structure will have to fit a design brief that they will be given. They will be presenting their final model to the class.

## Music - Violins Thursdays

As part of our Music connections, all children in Year 4 have learning to play the violin this year. Our new tutor comes with high praise and is no doubt going to teach us some fantastic skills which we can use to hopefully to another great performance this year!



## 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 materials topic.

### Writing

The children will write in the following genres;

At the start of the term we will be exploring different types of poetry and the children will be creating their own poems based on the terms themes and weather. We will also be using the materials theme as a vehicle to revisit our Non Fiction work and create highly detailed, descriptive and well written informative texts.

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 target cards to know what they need to include to move onto their next level. They will learn to improve their sentence structure, grammar and punctuation as well as continuing to work through their spellings in a weekly test.

### 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 our Christmas Performance

## MFL - French - Trois Petit Cochons

As part of their language learning the children will be reading the animated French story of Three little pigs. Throughout the term they will learn phrases, sequence events, match words and pictures and construct simple sentences in French.



## **PE - Y4 Monday and Wednesday**

Every Monday we welcome Alnwick Bears into school to lead Rugby and Multi skill activities with Willow Class. They will also be learning some dances for their Christmas Performance.



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

## **Geography, History**

The children will go on a trip to the Hancock to conclude their Stone Age work and then kick start their understanding of mega structures looking at the bridges and impressive buildings across the Tyne. Back in school they will learn how to chronologically order changes you can identify to a local area from studying different age maps.



Additionally they will learn about the role of architects throughout the ages and impressive worldwide mega structures and famous wonders.

## **RSHE**

Year 3 and 4 are continuing to develop their knowledge of relationships this half term. This will cover managing dares, good and bad secrets, resolving conflict, healthy and safe relationships and understanding and challenging stereotypes.

## **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 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. The children will also be using our Beebots to programme them into moving around a scene. Thinking about the instructions they are giving their beebot and how they are programming them to do what they would like.

We also use technology to present our topic findings on apps on the iPads.

## **Science - Food chains, Habitats and Electricity**

The children will be learning about what a food chain is and how it provides animals with nutrients from food. They will then move onto learning about electricity, identifying features of a circuit.



## **RE - People of God**



In RE we will be learning about God's people and what it is like to follow God. We will focus on the stories of Noah and Abraham.

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, 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.

**Maths / English Homework** - Children will be given some Maths Homework to complete from Friday afternoon to the following Friday morning. 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. It will be set online and accessed through mathletics, information will be sent home about this and the children will be trained in school on accessing it. In addition, they will have log in details to Times Table Rock Stars which we encourage the children to complete as often as possible to improve their time in completing. At the end of Year 4 it is quite likely that the class will complete the statutory times table assessment, so being fast and efficient at their answers would be brilliant.

**Thanks for your help and support.**

## Swimming (Year 3 and 4)

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

**Willow Class** will be using the **Forest area** on a **Thursday** afternoon and **PE** on **Tuesdays**  
**Both Year 3 and 4 will be going swimming on Wednesdays**

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 or Thursdays depending on the class, 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.