



Curriculum Newsletter - Spring Term 3

Welcome to our curriculum newsletter!

Please find below information about what your child will be learning about this term. You will notice that each term has 3 key concepts. The learning is designed to explore these concepts in class so that children develop their life skills as well as their academic knowledge. If you have any questions about the learning this term, please feel free to speak to your child's class teacher.

Lemurs - Reception

Key concepts for our curriculum this term are: Stewardship, Choice and Change

Our overall topic for Term 3 is **Amazing Animals**.

In **Literacy** this term, our core text will be *The Gruffalo*. We will practise acting out and retelling the story using props and discuss the rhythm and rhyme within the story. We will also look at the characters and setting and will introduce children to writing simple sentences! We will also start learning the Phase 3 digraphs and tricky words.



In **Maths** we will be focusing on numbers to 8, learning to recognise the amount when represented in different ways and finding one more or one less. We will also explore mass and capacity using a range of hands-on activities.



In **RE**, we will be answering the question 'Why are some places special?'. This will include an opportunity to visit a local church and discuss other places of worship along with places that are special to the children.

In **PSHE**, our topic is 'Dreams and Goals'. We will be setting some goals for the new year and thinking about how to achieve them and what to do when we are finding it hard to meet our goals.

Our **Understanding the World** focus this term will aim to answer the question 'How can we show we care?'. This investigation encourages pupils to continue to explore the natural world around them through learning to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things. Children will begin to understand the key features of the life cycle of an animal and we are excited to kick-start this topic with our ZooLab visit!

In **DT**, we will be looking at cooking and nutrition and will work towards making our own fruit and yoghurt based 'owl ice cream'.



Our **Physical Development** focus for this term will continue to be following the 'BEAM' programme to develop children's gross motor skills and coordination through movement and balances. We will also continue following the 'Write Dance' programme we introduced earlier this year.

Finally in **Music**, we will be thinking about how we can connect with each other through music, listening and appraising different genres of music and working together to invent different ways to find the pulse.

We can't wait to get started!

Otters - Year 1

Key concepts for our curriculum this term are: Pride, Change, Community



In **English** this term, we will be looking at the book *Tell Me A Dragon* by Jackie Morris. Everyone has their very own dragon, and this book describes many different varieties of the beast, showing in words and stunning pictures exactly why their owners find them so entrancing. We will be writing descriptions and deciding what our ideal dragon might look like. We will also be writing instruction texts on caring for bearded dragons.

In **maths**, our focus will be on place Value. Concrete resources will be used to support children to see the “10-and-a-bit” structure of teen numbers. Number tracks will be used to support children in counting on and back to 20. “I count, you count” activities allow children to practise continuing the count from different starting points. The children will develop their understanding of teen numbers as 1 ten and some ones, or “10-and-a-bit”. We will start by showing children 10 on a ten frame and explore with them how to use a second ten frame to extend the number represented to 11, 12, and so on. We will encourage them to make teen numbers using a range of resources that make the “10-and-a-bit” structure clear. Ten frames, number pieces, towers of cubes, Rekenreks and bead strings will all be used to support children to see the full ten and part of the next ten to support their place value understanding. This understanding is crucial to future work on addition and subtraction.

In **history**, we will begin to explore local history - with a focus on our school. We will consider questions such as - What must it have been like to be at school in the past? What things would you have liked and what things would you have disliked about schools in the past?

In **PSHE**, we will be exploring our dreams and goals and the steps we can take to achieve those goals. We will be thinking about what ‘success’ is, what it feels like and how it doesn’t always mean winning or some great achievement.

For our **PE** this term, we will be completing the units Send and Return and Run, Jump and Throw. The children will be practising many skills before building up to more competitive games.

In **music**, we will be looking at pulse, tempo, texture and rhythm, and the song we will be learning is called, In The Groove!.

In **science** this term, we will be examining and grouping animals. We will complete activities such as -identifying what a mammal is as well as grouping images of animals based on whether they are mammals or not. Encouraging the children to explain their reasoning. We will provide children with images of a variety of reptiles, amphibians and birds. Ask them to identify the similarities and differences between different types.

In **RE**, the children will investigate the question - What is God's job? The children will be exploring the roles of God through stories and sacred texts, they will look at the things God does and what this means to different people.

In **computing**, the children will create a self portrait using simple digital mark-making tools. They will explore shape and fill tools in re-creating the work of Sonia Delaunay.

In **DT** this term, the children will be designing a puppet, using a template. They will learn to join fabrics together using pins, staples or glue. Finally they will decorate the puppet to match their design.

We can't wait to get started!

Meerkats - Year 2

Key concepts for our curriculum this term are: Equality, Happiness and Value

Each night, in the hours between supper and bedtime, the tear thief carries her waterproof, silvery sack over her shoulder as she soundlessly steals the tears of every child who cries. But what does she do with all of those tears? Meerkats class will be finding out! Our core text in **English** this term is *The Tear Thief* by Carol Ann Duffy; a



modern day fairytale that will give our children the chance to discuss and understand why people cry. The children will be using this story as a stimulus for a character description of the tear thief and a fictional instruction text entitled *How to make the moon shine*. We will continue to reinforce the children's recent grammar learning - adjectives, verbs apostrophes for contraction and expanded noun phrases - as well as linking new content - commas in a list, apostrophes for possession, the past tense and distinguishing between questions, commands and exclamations - to our final written outcomes.

In **Mathematics** we will learn all about money; how to count in coins and notes and selecting the correct coins and notes to make different amounts. We will then begin multiplication and division. In order to do this successfully, the children need to be able to count in 2s, 3s, 5s and 10s fluently. The children will develop an understanding of the link between multiplication and repeated addition for 2s, 3s, 5s and 10s and use this knowledge to solve word problems. They will learn to divide by sharing and grouping using cubes, pictorial methods and mental strategies.

In **Science** we are learning all about plants. The children will discover what plants need to grow and conduct an investigation into the ways in which light and dark affect the growth of a plant.

In **History** we are investigating 'How do our favourite toys and games compare with those of children in the 1960s?' We will look at popular toys from this decade in history, find adults we know who remember the 1960s and question why there were no smart toys and games in the 1960s. The children will also learn how to play with modern, smart toys safely and securely and they will have the opportunity to bring in their own favourite toy or game at one point in the unit - stay tuned!

In **Art and Design**, the children will be exploring 'life in colour' through painting and mixed media. They will learn primary and secondary colours, colour mixing and how to create textures using different tools.

Our **PSHE** learning focuses on Dreams and Goals. We will share our own goals and discuss the importance of making these realistic and achievable. We will also learn about the importance of persevering when we find things difficult, and reflect on the skills that we need to work collaboratively in groups to solve problems.

In **PE** we will be completing the units Send and Return and Run, Jump and Throw. The children will be practising many skills before building up to more competitive games.

In **RE**, we will be exploring the question 'How do we know some people have a special connection to God?' After thinking about our own beliefs, we will look closely at religious stories to find out why some people are believed to have a special connection to God.

In **Music** we will be looking at pulse, tempo, texture and rhythm, learning the song 'I wanna play in a band' and performing it with glockenspiels.

In **Computing** we will be using iAnimate to design and create computer animations.

What an exciting term ahead!

Rhinos - Year 3

Key concepts for our curriculum this term are: equality, poverty and dreams



In **English** this term, we will be looking at the book *Escape from Pompeii* by Christina Balit. Two children escape Pompeii, their hometown, just as Mount Vesuvius is erupting. Their whole world is torn apart as they witness the destruction. Our book ties in with our History and Art theme to deepen the children's knowledge and understanding of Roman times. We will be focusing on vocabulary rich setting descriptions at the start of the term to compare the setting at the start of the story and the end. We will also be writing our own newspaper report on the eruption of Mount Vesuvius and the devastating effect.

In **Maths**, we will continue to build our knowledge on multiplication and division. We will be multiplying and dividing two digits by one digit. This is going beyond the already secure knowledge of the times table as children will need to exchange with multiplication and understand non-equal divisions with remainders.

In **History**, we will be investigating the question 'How did the arrival of the Romans change Britain?' So much of our daily life is impacted by the arrival of the Romans and how they modernised Britain. Our learning will include understanding why the Romans conquered Britain and how they were defeated. We will be introducing Boudica and how she was key to the downfall of Roman Britain, in destroying its capital.

In **DT**, we will be exploring the concept of wearable technology and its applications. It introduces key vocabulary such as circuit, sensor, input and output and helps the children to understand how technology is integrated into clothing and accessories. They will also learn about the design process, including planning, testing and evaluating their own wearable technology ideas.



Our topics for **Science** this term are fossils and soil. Children will investigate soil to better understand what soil is and its importance. Like proper scientists the children will experiment with soil to identify different properties and different types of soil.

In **PSHE**, we will be exploring our dreams and goals and the steps we can take to achieve those goals. We will be talking about how working towards our goals is challenging but we can achieve them if we work hard.

For our **PE** this term, we will be completing the units for Dance and Gymnastics.

In **Music**, we will be continuing our Ukulele playing and then all the learning will be focused around one song: Three Little Birds. As well as learning to sing, play, improvise and compose with this song, children will listen and appraise other Reggae songs.



In **RE**, the children will be answering the overarching question: *Is scripture central to religion?* The children will be reflecting on what revelation means to some people, and explore the significance of some scriptures.

In **French** we are learning all about musical instruments. We will be learning the name of some in French as well as being able to put simple phrases together, such as *moi, je joue du piano*.

In **Computing** the children will be exploring networks and learning how digital devices are connected together to form them.

Penguins - Year 4

Key concepts for our curriculum this term are: pride, free will and transformation



Our focus text in **English** this term is *Viking Boy* by Tony Bradman. This action-packed story is full of Viking adventure and through this we will learn how to use direct speech in a conversation between two characters, as well as how to use well-chosen verbs to create suspense and tension in our own Viking inspired action stories. We will consider the impact of these literary techniques on the reader and apply them to generate anticipation and excitement.

In **Mathematics**, we will be focusing on furthering our understanding of multiplication and division, children will also be introduced to factors. They will learn that when they multiply two whole numbers to give a product, both the numbers that they multiplied together are factors of the product. Each week we will practise counting in 9s and how to recall the multiplication and division facts for the 9 times tables. We will also spend a week learning about what area is and how to calculate the area of a shape by counting squares.

Our **History** this term will investigate the question 'What causes change and transformation?' The focus of our history learning will be the Anglo Saxon era. This learning will include what life was like living in Anglo Saxon Britain and the changes which occurred during this time. Penguins will be thinking carefully about why these changes took place and whether they were due to invasion. At the end of the term, we will bring our knowledge together to create our own historical museum display.

In **Art** Penguins will Create a final painting that shows an understanding of how colour can be used to show light and dark, and therefore show three dimensions.

In **Music** we will appraise and analyse a variety of different songs and consider the messages behind these songs and their impact on the audience. The class will also learn a rap about anti bullying.

In **PSHE** our focus is on our dreams and goals. Using our understanding that we all find different things challenging, we will learn that we can work towards achieving future goals by working hard to achieve them. We will learn to understand that when we learn new things we have to stretch our thinking skills.

In **PE** we will be further developing our skills in gymnastics and dance. In dance children will concentrate on one simple theme throughout and link all the activities to communicate to the audience. In gym children will develop an increased range of body actions and shapes to include a sequence.

Sound will be our focus in **Science**. Through investigation we will identify how sounds are made and recognise that vibrations from sounds travel through a medium to the ear. We will explore the patterns between the pitch of a sound and the features of the object that produced it. Similarly, we will investigate the pattern between the volume of a sound and the strength of the vibrations that produced it. Within each lesson we will learn, develop and apply the skills that are involved in working scientifically.

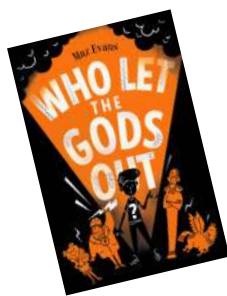
In **RE** this term we will be focusing on the question *Just how important are our beliefs?* The children will consider how actions and practices demonstrate the importance of beliefs and whether we can tell what a person believes from the outside.

In **French** this term we will learn 10 fruits and understand the simple opinions 'I like' and 'I do not like'. By the end of the term pupils will have the knowledge and skills to be able to say which fruits they like and do not like.

Lastly, for **Computing** children will be introduced to designing and creating computer animations.

Lions - Year 5

Key concepts for our curriculum this term are: pride, belief and tradition



Elliot and his Mum are facing tough times. Their bills and debts are stacking up, and they currently face their home being repossessed. In contrast, Virgo is a Zodiac who literally **IS** perfect. After their fates intertwine after, Elliot faces the situation of accidentally releasing the Gods! And some are more savoury than others... This term in **English** we are reading 'Who Let the Gods Out?', by Maz Evans. By using a full range of punctuation, adverbials and integrated dialogue, we will build up to writing a setting description and a 3rd person narrative.

In **Maths**, we will continue to build on our knowledge on fractions, using manipulatives to deepen our understanding. Following this, we will work on expanding our knowledge on improper fractions, mixed numbers and eventually comparing, ordering, adding and subtracting these types of fractions.

Do you know what bloody, terrifying event happened in 793 AD? Up on the coast of modern day Northumberland lies Holy Island and the settlement of Lindisfarne. One day, the monks noticed some longships with red and white sails approaching, belonging to none other than the Vikings! In **History** we will be looking at how these bloodthirsty heathens swept across the Kingdoms of England, plundering and pillaging as they went, what they wanted and why, and how Alfred the Great stopped them in Wessex and unified England.

In **Design and Technology** we will be designing and constructing a pop-up book. We will be able to describe how mechanisms control movements.

Our focuses in **PE** this term are Gymnastics and Football. In Football specifically, they will learn how to perform movements at speed.

For **PSHE**, the topic for our class is Dreams and Goals, through which we will be discussing what the children themselves want to do and achieve when they grow up and what other people around the world aspire to be. We will reflect on the importance of perseverance, determination and motivation.

In **French**, the children will be learning about the weather by recognising the vocabulary and creating weather maps, describing the weather in different regions in France using different symbols.

In **Music** our song for the term is "Make you feel my love" by Adele.

In **RE**, we will be asking ourselves "What happens when we die?" we will reflect on the similarities and differences of beliefs held in different worldviews.

Lastly, for **Computing** pupils will learn about communicating securely over distances with an introduction to cryptography.

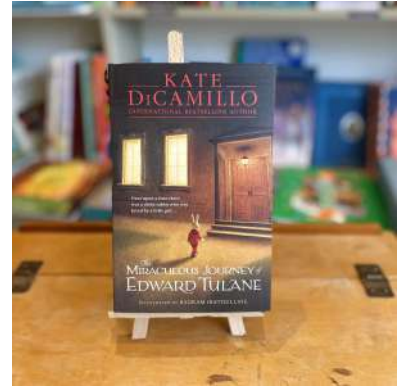
We look forward to a brilliant term ahead!

Dolphins - Year 6

Key concepts for our curriculum this term are: equality, media and strength

In **Maths** this term, we will be learning about ratio, including the ratio symbol and the similarities and differences between ratio and fractions. We will apply our understanding of ratio to scale drawings and scale factors as well as learning to solve a variety of problems involving ratio and proportion. We will then move on to begin to formally learn about algebra. Firstly through exploring function machines and then progressing to using letters to represent numbers and form expressions. We will learn how to find the values of expressions by substituting numbers in place of the letters, use formula, and form and solve equations.

In **English**, we will be reading a wonderful text called The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane. It allows children to join a china rabbit on a journey which sees him travel to incredible places, meet incredible people and experience some incredible changes emotionally and physically. We will write narratives, explore new vocabulary and write letters in this term linked to the text.



Science sees the children investigate light and how we see. They will explore the anatomy of an eye and investigate what colour light is and how we see colour.

History is based on the classic story of the Trojan Horse. Children will investigate whether it is a myth or historical fact. They will learn to analyse and evaluate sources of historical information and will challenge what they already know.



We are really excited about **Art** this term as we are going to be looking at the features of street art and murals. Children will discuss the intention and impact of street art, develop shading techniques to show texture, tone and depth, learn how to scale up and create their own street-art- inspired piece. Watch out for future Banksys!



PE will be a busy term with football and dance keeping us fit and active. Children learn rules, skills and tactics in both activities where they will build upon these and finish the term with mini matches in football and some dance routines.

PSHE will cover dreams and ambitions of our children where we will learn about how Olympic athletes made targets in primary school which they stuck too and succeeded in later life. **MFL (Modern Foreign Languages)** takes us on a learning path to discuss, read and write all about our homes and where we live. Children will build on previous knowledge as well as learning new vocabulary, conjunctions and grammar. **RE** Thinking back to learning about prayer and worship, we will be finding out about significant religious and non-religious journeys and pilgrimages and why going to a particular place is so important to some people.

Finally, **Music** will see us studying Classical, Gospel and Bhangra and learning to sing and perform a song by Benjamin Britten whilst in **Computing**, children will learn how data is manipulated in spreadsheets.