

Welcome back!

We hope you enjoyed the half-term break and are as excited as we are about the coming weeks and the approach of Spring!

This term our topic is 'All creatures great and small'. This will include identifying lots of different types of animals and how they move. We will also be thinking about the life-cycle of animals like frogs and chickens.

In Literacy we will continue to learn words that begin with the same initial sound. We will also be sharing the story of 'The Rainbow Fish' trying hard to listen and answer questions about it, especially the message it gives about sharing.

Can I please encourage you all to send in something from home to share for Wonderful Wednesdays? This is a valuable part of our time, when we can help the children create links between home and school. A list of ideas will be sent home.

In Maths we enjoy playing counting and sorting games as well as joining in with number songs. We will be looking at ordering events and the language of time (soon, next, later).

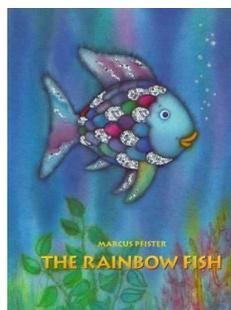
In PSHE we will be thinking about how to be kind and why we need to share. In RE we will be learning about the Christian Festival of Easter and the story of Noah's Ark, to fit in with our animal theme.

This half term we will continue to have gardening on Monday mornings. Please can you make sure that your children bring a suitable coat to school on these days - appropriate for the weather. We will also continue to have dance lessons every Tuesday morning and P.E. will take place on a Thursday morning and we will be developing our football skills. Just a reminder that Library books are changed on Thursdays, please.

Our focus for BLP this half term is interdependence and how we can improve our learning by working with others. Foundation will also continue to develop our understanding of the rights of the child by focusing on the right of children to choose their own friends (Article 15) and the right for all children to practice their own culture, language and religion (Article 30).

Thank you in advance for all your support and we look forward to working with you!

The Nursery Team



Welcome back!

We hope you have all had a good half term break and that the children are ready to have lots of fun with their learning over the next few weeks!

This term our topic is 'All creatures great and small'. We will be learning about different animals and their life cycles, including the butterfly and birds.

In Literacy we will be learning more about phonics and identifying the sounds at the start and end of words. We will also be sharing the story of 'The Rainbow Fish' and we will be ordering the main events in the story and predicting what will happen at the end.

In order to encourage the children to develop their communication skills we will continue with Wonderful Wednesday's show and tell session. A letter will be sent out to confirm the topics for each session but we will start with talking about what we did in the holidays and sharing our photographs on the children's PSPs.

In maths we will continue to develop the children's knowledge of number through songs, stories and practical activities. We will practise counting to five, ten or 30 and beyond and we will also be doubling numbers up to 10.

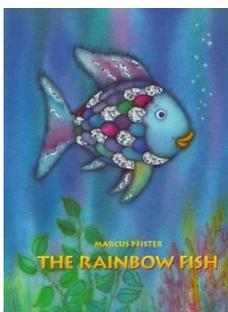
In PSHE we will be thinking about who our friends are and what makes a good friend. In RE we will be learning about the Christian Festival of Easter and sharing the special occasions we celebrate with our Families.

This half term we will continue to have gardening on Monday mornings. Please can you make sure that your children bring a suitable coat to school on these days - appropriate for the weather. We will also continue to have dance lessons every Tuesday morning and P.E. will take place on a Friday morning and we will be developing our football skills.

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Thank you in advance for all your support and we look forward to working with you!

The Reception Team



Our learning focus this half term will continue to be around 'animals'. In English we will be reading stories and poems about animals, as well as writing some of our own. In Maths, we will be counting with animals and using shapes to build different creatures, reinforcing which ones are tall or short, heavy or light, etc. In Science we will be learning about mammals, fish, birds, reptiles and amphibians. We will be thinking about the features of these types of animals and how they differ from one another.

In music we will be using what we have learnt about animals to make our own piece of animal music. We will be thinking about sounds we might hear in the jungle or under the sea and putting these together using instruments and our voices. In history we are going to be exploring the history of Longwill and the significant people and events over the years. Towards the end of the half term we will be cooking as part of our Design and Technology curriculum. We will be using some healthy foods to make animal inspired recipes. Deaf Studies and BSL Story Time will be taking place weekly, and children also have the opportunity to visit the school library each week.

PE will be every Monday; please ensure your child has the correct PE kit (t-shirt, shorts and pumps) and that it is named. This half term we are orienteering on the school grounds. Swimming continues to take place every Friday, so please send in a named towel and swimsuit, in a bag.

Our BLP focus is interdependence, so we are encouraging children to think about when it is good to work by themselves and when it is good to work with others. As always our curriculum will link to the UNICEF charter of children's rights. As this term we will be visiting Birmingham Central Mosque and learning lots about Easter, our main focus will be article 14: The right to choose your own religion and beliefs.

Home learning will be set on a Friday and needs to be returned to school the following Wednesday. Please also share the books the children bring home and record any reading in the yellow reading record.

Thank you for your support! Miss Sheppard, Miss Alsop, Imogen, Louise and Ola



We will be starting the term with a Design Technology week about bridges, looking at the different types, planning and building bridges. There will also be World Book Day when we will be dressing up and describing a favourite character. In Maths we will be working with money, recognising coins and adding amounts.

In Science the topic is plants, planting seeds and bulbs, learning about what they need to grow and the lifecycle of plant. History will continue with the topic of the Great Fire of London and in Geography we will be looking at aerial photographs and maps.

In R.E. we will be thinking about caring for others and the environment. Our BLP focus is interdependence, so we are encouraging children to think about when it is good to work by themselves and when it is good to work with others. As always our curriculum will link to the UNICEF charter of children's rights.

PE has changed to Mondays on and children will need their PE kit (shorts, t-shirt and pumps). Swimming is on Fridays and children will need a swimming costume or swimming trunks and a towel in a named bag. Dance lessons will be on Tuesdays. We will be doing gardening fortnightly on Mondays.

Photographs and videos from home on PSPs will help pupils to share their news from home especially weekend news.

Spellings will be given out on Mondays and will be tested the following Monday. Please help your child to learn these. Children will read regularly. Please share and discuss stories with your child, and read with them regularly.

Thank you.



This half term's learning journey will focus on the exciting topic of volcanoes and earthquakes. We will explore their features, researching where they can be found, investigate the causes of these natural phenomena's and the effect they have on those who live near them. Hazel Class will be getting messy when attempting to create our own exploding volcanoes.

In Science we will be learning about rocks, focusing on their different qualities, erosion and how fossils are created. We will conduct simple tests to bring our learning to life and will also have a go at making our own fossils.

In art we will be exploring the techniques of great artists such as, Van Gogh, Banksy, Andy Warhol and Lowry and will evaluate the features of their work, learn about their lives and try to re-create their artwork. We will also be spending our Design and Technology week creating and cooking a healthy meal (hopefully there will be some left for you to try, as long as the children do not get hungry in the taxi home).

In English we will be starting off the half term preparing for World Book day where our focus is on Asian Authors, so our learning will be based around the story of Ganesha's Sweet Tooth. Following this we shall be learning about different types of punctuation, practicing using Sentence Street and learning a few spelling rules. We will continue to visit the Library every Tuesday afternoon where the children will learn library skills alongside choosing books that interest them, to take home. In Maths we will continue to develop our numeracy skills, through learning the place value of 2-digit numbers, how to double and half numbers, learning language related to time and describing position and direction. PSHE will focus on what to do in an emergency and in RE we will reflect on compassion within religion. This half term's Building Learning Power focus is on 'Interdependence' which will be incorporated into each lesson. Our Rights Respecting focus will be Article 12, 'Every child has the right to say what they think in all matters affecting them and to have their views taken seriously'.

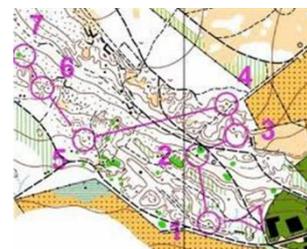
PE will focus on Orienteering where we will learn to use a map and gain an understanding of keys and symbols. Our topic for Computing is being safe on the internet and for Music it is composition, where we will write basic notation and create our own music.

We will continue to have gardening with Hannah every other Monday, PE on Monday afternoons, dance on Tuesdays and swimming on Fridays. Neelam will continue to teach our Deaf Studies lessons, which the children all look forward to and Michael will continue to hold BSL one to one's and will read our BSL story each Monday afternoon.

Home learning will be sent home each Friday, to be returned by Wednesday and we would appreciate your support with helping your child to complete these tasks.

Please keep us updated with any home news in their home school books and thank you in advance for your continued support.

Miss Blackwell, Rachel and Neelam



What's On: Year 4 Pine

Spring B 2018



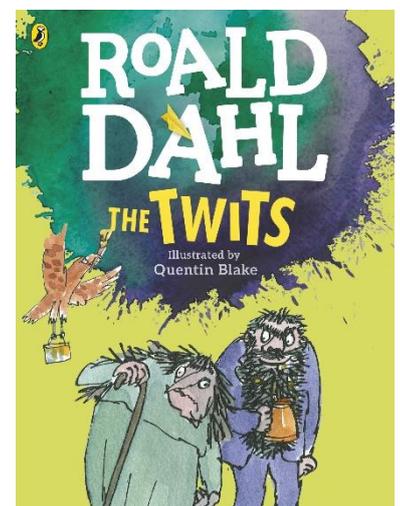
After beginning the new half term with forest school, pine class will have a busy and exciting five weeks. In Spring B, we will continue on our learning journey about the Romans, now particularly focussing on life in Roman Britain. We will even bake some bread using a real Roman recipe and build wooden catapults in design and technology.

Science lessons will involve lots of investigating and practical experiments as we learn about sound and how our brain perceives it. Linking science to computing, we will look at how our hearing technology works and how it is controlled by electrical signals. We will use our new knowledge about sound to help us choose tuned instruments to compose with in music.

English lessons this term will focus on two topics: 'The Twits' by Roald Dahl and non-fiction writing. For the latter, the children will practise writing to communicate information, such as facts about life as a Roman child and ways in which Easter is celebrated in RE. This links to article 14 of the UNCRC – the right to practise your own religion. Another topic we will cover in RE is compassion: we will talk about showing kindness to others and take part in a Lent challenge to do something kind every day.

In maths this half term we are joining in with a whole-school times tables competition. We will be focussing on multiples of 2 and 5. We will also be revising number skills and looking at ways of measuring length and weight. Our Building Learning Power focus for this half term is interdependence.

Please continue to support your child to complete their home learning and practise reading regularly. PE will now take place on Monday afternoons.



This half term, we will be focusing on a mini learning journey called 'Telling Stories.'

We will look at a range of different stories and will retell them using role play, pictures, animation, story sacks and writing. We will learn about a few different authors and their work.

In Maths, we will be continuing to improve our number skills, learning our times tables and solving word problems through story telling.

Our Science work will continue to focus on sound and how it is produced. We will move on to look at our own hearing and the technology we use to help us to hear more.

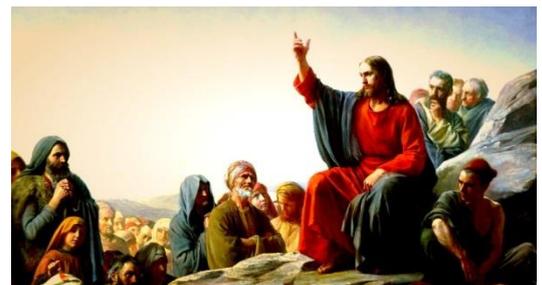
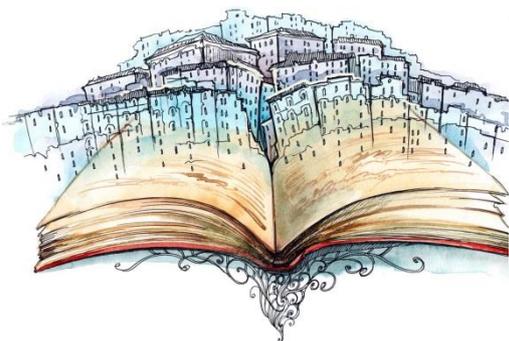
In Computing, we will be presenting stories using animation and coding programmes and will be looking at the reliability of information on the internet.

We will be learning some different religious stories from different world religions - from the parables of Jesus to the story of Guru Nanak around the theme of compassion.

In P.E, we will be working on orienteering skills. **P.E. will now be on Monday afternoons. Please ensure that your child has a well-fitting, full school P.E. kit available at all times.**

Our BLP focus is interdependence, so we will be looking at how we help and support each other with or learning. Our Rights Respecting focus will be on our right to have our own opinions and beliefs. (Article 14)

Please continue to read with your child every day and help them to complete their homework, which will be sent home every Friday to be returned the following Wednesday. Also remember to use the online learning resources (Purple mash, Mathletics, Bug Club...etc). You can find your child's log-ons at the back of their home school book.



Welcome back! We hope that you all had an excellent half term break!

Year 5's Learning Journey will continue to be based on the invasion of the Anglo-Saxons and the Vikings and why these civilisations wanted to settle in Britain. We will focus on when they came, where they came from and what they looked like. We will also look at how our culture now is influenced by them. In English we shall again look at legends but this time they will be based on the Anglo-Saxon and Viking stories. We will also look at the written language and how it was similar or different to our own today and we will even try to solve some Anglo-Saxon riddles.

In Science we shall be asking ourselves where our planet is in relation to other planets and the sun. The children will find out why it seems the sun moves in the sky and why we have day and night. The children will explore the concept of Earth and Space. This will link to the work completed in maths last term all about time.

In Maths we will be focusing on shape. The children will be creating models and discussing them using mathematical language. We will practise giving and following directions. They will develop their understanding of half and full in both fractions and as part of a turn.

All the children in Year 5 will be involved in an exciting inclusion project with Bellfield School. We will be making new friends as we will visit them every two weeks. This is a great opportunity to develop speaking and listening skills.

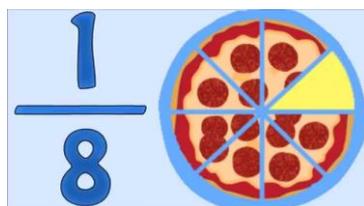
We will be having a design and technology week focusing on creating a gift to give 'mom'. The children will have to investigate what their mom likes, do market research to see what is available and then design their own product before making it.

As a school we will continue to develop pupils understanding of their rights and give them opportunities to express their views in a safe and supported environment. Our BLP focus will be 'interdependence', which is an important skill for our children to have.

If you would like to support your child's learning further at home please use the following websites / activities:

www.mathletics.co.uk – to practise mental maths skills

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/guides/z8q487h> - to learn about the Anglo Saxons and Vikings.



During this half term, Y6 will be joined by a student teacher, Miss Sophie Bryan, who will share teaching with Mrs Button. The Y6 staff team are very much looking forward to working with Miss Bryan for 6 weeks.

Our first week back includes World Book Day on Thursday when we will be focussing on books and stories from Asia. Year 6 will be reading a story called 'The Tiger and the Wise Man'. Otherwise, in English, we will be learning about different types of poetry and aim to link this with our learning about World War 2. This half term, we shall complete our Learning Journey topic by thinking about the different roles people played during WW2 and how home life was affected by the war. This will involve cooking using ingredients that were available under rationing! We will also find out how the war ended and how people celebrated VE Day. Our BLP focus this half term is interdependence; our learning about WW2 is such a good illustration of how we need to work together but also must understand that there are times when we must do things alone.

Our topic in Science is Electricity. We will learn about electrical circuits using bulbs and buzzers in particular and try to set up a circuit that will enable us to communicate over a long distance in a similar way to using Morse code.

In PE on Mondays, pupils will develop their orienteering skills in preparation for a competition at the end of the half term. Swimming continues to be every Friday, so please do ensure your child has the correct kit for each of these sessions.

As this is the half term leading up to the Easter holiday, we shall be developing our understanding of the Easter story in RE and we will enjoy our special Easter activities such as egg rolling and our Easter bonnet parade. This links to article 14 of the UNCRC – the right to practise your own religion. We look forward to a lot of fun, as always!

Please continue to support your child to complete their home learning and practise reading regularly.

