



# Lower Key Stage 2 Newsletter Autumn Term 2024



Welcome to a new school year. We are looking forward to an exciting year ahead with lots planned for the children.

The children have had a great start to the term this week and are showing lots of enthusiasm in their learning. They are working hard and look great in their school uniforms. Please make sure that the children's clothes, lunchboxes and water bottles are named clearly.

## Lower Key Stage Two

Mrs Cribbens (Otters class teacher/ Team Leader)

Mrs Barrington (Frogs class teacher)

Miss Kelly (Newts class teacher)

Miss Stuart (Water Voles class teacher)

Supported by: Mrs Moore, Mrs Safi, Mrs Jain, Mrs Sharpe, Miss Ashford and Miss Harris



## Curriculum Information

### Literacy

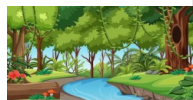


In the first half of this term, our Literacy and guided reading activities will be linked to 'The Romans'. We will be developing our vocabulary, taking inspiration from the texts to create character descriptions, writing a myth, a recount of our Roman Day, writing persuasive adverts for a Roman Villa as well as an information text.

In the second half term, our Literacy learning will be linked to our topic and will involve information about 'The Rainforest'. We will write a non chronological report, a newspaper article, setting description as well as a story. We will also have the opportunity for some speaking and listening activities throughout the term too.

As well as having class-based Literacy lessons, the children will also take part in regular guided reading, spelling, grammar and handwriting sessions.

Please remember that children should be reading at least 4 times a week at home. This is very important as it helps improve children's accuracy when reading. They can read a range of books, magazines or comics to help them develop a love for reading.



### Numeracy



Year 3: The children will start the autumn term by looking at number and the place value of 3 digit numbers. They will develop their fluency, reasoning and problem solving skills.

They will then be learning to use their mental and written methods for addition and subtraction, then applying these skills when solving problems. Also, they will be learning to use the 3, 4 and 8 times tables, then use these to solve problems. We will end the term with a topic on money using pounds and pence where they will add, subtract and solve problems.

Year 4: The children will start the autumn term by looking at number and the place value of 4 digit numbers. They will develop their fluency, reasoning and problem solving skills.

They will then be learning to use written methods for addition and subtraction, then applying these skills when solving two step word problems. Also, they will be learning to use the 6, 7 and 9 times tables as well as multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100, then use these to solve problems. We will end the term with a topic on length, perimeter and area.

## Curriculum information continued

### Science:

Year 3 will begin the term learning about a variety of rocks and soils as well as how to recognise and classify them. They will also learn about how fossils are formed linked to our key scientist for the term who is Mary Anning. In the second half term they will learn about skeletons and the link between bones and muscles.

Year 4 will begin by learning about living things and their habitats. This will involve looking at our key scientist, Chris Packham as well as the environments that various animals live in and how we can protect those areas. In the second half term they will be learning about teeth and skeletons as well as food chains and how our digestive system works.

History/ Geography: Our first topic has a history focus as we are learning about 'The Romans' which will look at who they were, what they built and why they invaded. In the second half of the term, our topic will have a geography focus and we will learn about South America. This will look at its location, weather and the rainforest.

Art/DT: In DT we will be creating a 'Siege Tower' which includes measuring and cutting wood as well as using gears and a pulley. During the second half of the term, we will base our work on 'The White Lipped Tree Frog' and focus on sketching with a pencil and using water colours.

RE: In RE lessons we will be looking at places of worship, festivals and celebrations. Some of this will focus on the Hindu and Muslim religions.

Music: Year 3 will work to use body percussions and explore a range of different sounds and Year 4 will work with a specialist teacher to play instruments.

Computing: Year 3 will learn how to use an animation program this term and Year 4 will learn how to create a maze game in the programme Scratch.

PSHE: Children will learn about healthy lifestyles and money.

French: Year 3 will learn how to greet others, count to 10, colours and days of the week.

Year 4 will learn how to ask simple questions and answer and finally taking part in a conversation. They will then learn about family members.

## Dates for your diary...

12th September: Water Voles start swimming  
w/b 23rd September: Roman Day (more details to follow but please start thinking of an outfit)  
27th September: Open morning 9am - 11am  
2nd October: Year 4 Multiplication check information for parents. 8.50am or 4.30pm  
4th October: Author visit  
8th October: Maths Evening  
16th/17th October: Parents Evening  
22nd October: Halloween Disco  
w/b 28th October: Half Term  
4th November: School photos

## Homework

Every week, the children should complete the following homework:

- Times table or division facts practise.
  - Spelling practice - 4 times (Spellings will be tested on Friday and new words set on the same day)
  - Reading - 4 times (Reading diaries will be checked on Fridays, please encourage your children to read regularly and sign their diary each week)
  - One piece of Maths (My Maths) to be completed each week. This will be set on a Thursday and is due back on the following Tuesday.
  - TT Rockstars - Times table practise.
- Teachers will be rewarding great home learning with Dojo points.

## Reminders

### Water Bottles

Every child needs to have a water bottle, filled with water only, in school so that they don't become dehydrated during the school day. Please make sure that the bottle is named.

### Snack

Children are welcome to bring in a fruit or vegetable snack to enjoy at break time.

### Weekly Learning

Please look out for our weekly Class Dojo post that will update you with our learning. You will be able.

### Year 4 Multiplication Check

This will take place in June.- More information will follow in our parent information evening in October. Please encourage your child to practise at home too. [www.timestables.co.uk](http://www.timestables.co.uk) is a great website as well

## PE



**Frogs:** Tuesday and Thursday

**Otters:** Tuesday and Thursday

**Water Voles:** Tuesday (PE) and Thursday (Swimming)

**Newts:** Monday and Thursday

All pupils in Year 3/4 need to bring their P.E. kits (black shorts, white t-shirt and plimsolls or trainers) every Monday. Kits can be taken home on Friday for washing.

The PE cup is awarded to the class with the most children in full PE kit, so please ensure your child has the correct kit for each lesson. Every class would love to win the trophy!