



Lower Key Stage 2 Newsletter Spring Term 2025



Happy new year!

Welcome back to the spring term. We hope that you all had a fantastic Christmas break and are feeling ready for an exciting term ahead in 2025.

The children have had a great start to the term this week and are showing lots of enthusiasm in their learning. If you need further details or information about anything in this leaflet, then please contact your child's teacher who will be more than happy to help.

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, Miss Ashford, Miss Harris and Mrs Jain

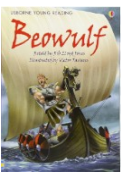


Curriculum Information

Literacy



In the first half of this term, our Literacy will be linked to our topic 'Indian Adventure' where we will look at the stories of Rama and Sita as well as the Jungle Book. We will be developing our speaking and listening skills, vocabulary and consider characters points of view. We will be taking inspiration from the text to create a play script, diary entry and setting description of the jungle.



In the second half term, our Literacy learning will be linked to the Anglo Saxons topic and will involve looking at the story of Beowulf. During this unit we will look at a range of text types including balanced arguments, a non chronological report as well as a newspaper report.

We encourage the children to check any writing they do against the 'Always Toolkit' - a list of features that all good writing has. The 'Toolkit' includes punctuation, vocabulary and interesting sentence starters. When your child writes at home for any reason, please ask them to read their work back carefully and ask them to show you examples of their 'Always Toolkit' in action.

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 and understanding when reading. They can read a range of books, magazines or comics to help them develop a love for reading.

Maths



Year 3 will spend the spring term learning to use written methods for multiplication and division, then applying these skills when solving problems. Also, they will look at statistics where they will interpret and present data using bar charts, pictograms and tables. They will learn to recognise, find, write and use fractions. Towards the end of term they will measure, add and subtract length as well as understand what perimeter is.

Year 4 will be applying their times table and division facts when multiplying and dividing. They will use formal written methods to multiply 2 and 3 digit numbers by a single digit. They will move on to learning about fractions where they will learn to recognise equivalent fractions as well as simplifying, adding and subtracting them. Towards the end of term, they will explore decimal numbers.

A vital part of maths is to know times tables and the matching division facts. The children are set Multipliers targets based on these expectations and should be practising them regularly as part of their homework. Any help you are able to give with this would be much appreciated.



Useful websites for this are:

www.ttrackstars.com and www.timestables.co.uk

Curriculum information continued

Science

Year 3 will begin the term learning about forces and magnets. They will understand what a force is and how they are used. They will have the opportunity to explore different types of magnets as well as identifying magnetic objects. They will move on to learn about light and shadow where they will explore how light helps us see and how shadows are formed.

Year 4 will learn about states of matter. They will learn to identify the properties of solids, liquids and gases. As well as how temperature affects the states of these. They will move on to learn about the process of the water cycle.

Geography/ History:

Our first topic is about the country of India. We will be looking at its Geographical location, features and weather. As well as this, we will learn about its human geography. In the second half of the term, our topic will have a history focus looking at the Anglo-Saxons. During this unit they will look at where they fit into the timeline that we already have on the history of Britain. They will also look at the way that society was structured and will start to compare that to other historical time periods as well as the present day.

Art/ DT

In Art the children will have the chance to create Rangoli patterns.

During the second half of the term, we will have a very exciting DT project based around designing and making an Anglo Saxon soup.

RE

In RE this half term we will be looking at the Jewish religion as well as the Islamic religion and focusing on the clothes they wear and how this represents their religion. In the second half term, the children will be looking at how different religions express their faith. We will look at prayer, scripture, pilgrimage and missionaries.

Music

Year 3 will work to develop their knowledge of rhythm, pitch and beat using their voices and different musical instruments.

Year 4 will work with a specialist teacher to play instruments.

Computing

Year 3 will learn how to create digital art based on Mondrian and then how to stay safe on line.

Year 4 will learn how to use a computer aided design program to design models and then how to use PowerPoint.

PSHE:

Children will begin learning about respect and relationships. Next half term they will move on to learn about substances.

French:

Year 3: Children will learn different animals and then move on to learning months of the year as well as numbers.

Year 4: Children will learn how to say where they live as well as retelling a story.

Dates for your diary...

Wednesday 15th January - Indian drumming workshops
Thursday 23rd January - Otters class assembly
Thursday 23rd January - author visit
w/b 27th January - Book week including book fair
Tuesday 28th January - Bedtime stories after school
Friday 31st January - Book character dress up day
w/b 10th February - Internet safety week
Monday 24th February - Anglo Saxon Day: Portals to the past
Thursday 27th February - Newts start swimming
Thursday 6th March - Newts class assembly

Forest School

Children will have the opportunity to spend one afternoon a week at forest school with Coach Dave.

Year 3 - Spring 1

Year 4 - Spring 2

Homework

Every week, the children should complete the following homework:

- Times table or division facts practise. (multipliers)
- 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)
- 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.

Children that read 4 times a week at home and have their diaries signed each week will be able to choose a prize from the sparkly box at the end of the half term.

Reminders

Year 4 Multiplication Check

This will take place at the start of June. The children will continue to practise their times tables in school. Please encourage your child to practise at regularly at home too.

www.timestables.co.uk is a great website as well as www.ttrockstars.com

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.

Labelling clothes:

Please could we ask that every piece of uniform is named clearly so that we can reunite it with its owner if it is lost. This includes coats, jumpers, PE kit, shoes and trainers.

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 and working hard in lessons, so please ensure your child has the correct kit for each lesson. Every class would love to win the trophy!

Please note that Newts will start swimming after half term.