



Lower Key Stage 2 Newsletter Autumn Term 2025



Welcome to a new school year! We hope that you all had a wonderful summer holiday. 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. 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)
Mrs Shaikh (Newts class teacher)
Mrs Davies (Water Voles class teacher)
Student Teacher: Miss Harris
Supported by: Mrs Moore, Mrs Murphy and Miss Ashford

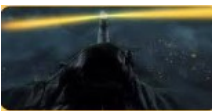


Curriculum Information

Literacy



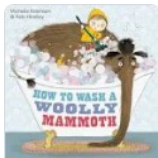
In Literacy this term, Years 3 & 4 will journey into the Stone Age with our key text - Stone Age Boy! Children will write vivid setting descriptions using sensory language and expanded noun phrases before stepping into character to write diary entries, exploring thoughts and emotions. Children will also master instructional writing with a fun twist — explaining how to wash a woolly mammoth!



Later in the term, we will use 'The Lighthouse' animation as a spark for creative writing. Children will write their own narrative resolutions, explaining how the story unfolds. We will also explore a variety of non-fiction text types - including informal letters, instructions and newspaper reports - developing children's skills in structure, tone and purpose.

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.



Maths



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.

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.

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 teeth and skeletons as well as food chains and how our digestive system works. In the second half term they will be 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.

History/ Geography

First we are learning about the Stone-Age. Children will explore how life evolved in prehistoric Britain—from the Stone-Age to the Bronze Age, using key sources and images to understand major changes over time. Later, children will investigate the U.K's coasts—learning how people and landscapes have changed and how we can protect them.

Art/ DT

In Art we will be creating our very own cave paintings using natural materials for tools and pigments.

During the second half of the term In DT, we will be creating a a model lighthouse using a variety of resources and will also include a simple electrical system to light it up.

RE

In RE lessons we will be learning about Islamic and Hindu beliefs and values.

Music

Year 3 will work to use body percussions and explore a range of different sounds.

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

Computing

Year 3 will learn how to use word and PowerPoint in autumn 1 and then move on to use an animation program (Scratch) in autumn 2.

Year 4 will learn about e safety and how to use search engines in autumn 1 and then learn to create presentations in autumn 2.

PSHE:

This term, children will explore emotions, peer influence and how to make safe, healthy choices—including the importance of hygiene. Later, they'll focus on building positive relationships, recognising healthy and unhealthy behaviours.

French:

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

Year 4 will learn about different ice cream flavours and how to order one in a simple conversation. They will then learn how to have simple conversations

Dates for your diary...

11th September - Newts swimming starts
29th September - Stone Age Day
7th October - School photos
7th October - Year 4 Multiplication check parent information talk
15th October - Parents evening
16th October - Parents evening
17th November - Otters class assembly
8th December - Newts class assembly

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)
- 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.

Reading

Studies show that reading for pleasure makes a big difference to educational performance. Evidence suggests that children who read for enjoyment every day not only perform better in reading tests than those who don't, but also develop a broader vocabulary, increased general knowledge and a better understanding of other cultures. This is why we want children to read at least 4 times a week at home.

Please can you record in the diary when you have heard your child read.

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 is a great website as well as www.ttrockstars.com

PE

Frogs: Tuesday and Thursday
Otters: Monday and Wednesday
Water Voles: Tuesday and Thursday
Newts: Wednesday and Thursday (swimming)



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 showing excellent effort in class, so please ensure your child has the correct kit for each lesson. Every class would love to win the trophy!