

Newsletter: Term 2 2021



We would like to welcome all students, parents and carers back for the second term of this academic year. Last term the students showed their increasing resilience and resolve as they transitioned back from the long summer break into the routine of school. This term, of course, will be the exciting build up to Christmas but before we get there, we have a wide and rich curriculum for our students to excel in. We hope they take the opportunity to embrace their learning this term with the same excitement as last.

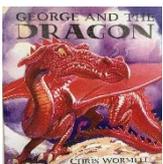
Please find below information on what children will be learning this term:

Topic - Continuing our topic, 'A Child's View of the Home Front in WW2', the children will be researching life for children in the Blitz, what it was like to be evacuated and the part families played in the war such as Digging for Victory. Any artefacts or information from their family history is more than welcome.



Design and Technology - The children will be finding out about recycling and the ethos of 'make do and mend' in the Second World War. They will design and make a soft toy and develop their sewing skills. Any contributions of fabrics, buttons and threads are welcome.

Communication & Interaction - The children are continuing to work on recognising and understanding how they feel as well as knowing how to regulate their emotions through understanding the 'Zones of Regulation' which will be shared with parents and carers in the near future. The pupils take part in specific timetabled lessons onsite and offsite C&I activities where there is a weekly focus on topics such as speaking and listening skills, teambuilding and friendships, turn taking when speaking, sharing, being kind and polite. These skills are encouraged and taught in every lesson and interaction with the children.



English - The children read daily, have English skills practice and listen to and discuss a class book. They will be finishing their work on 'George and the Dragon' and using the skills developed to write their own stories. They will learn about Remembrance Day and then move on to writing a narrative adventure using the text 'Meerkat Christmas'.

Numeracy - Topics are measurement - length and perimeter, then multiplication and division. The children also have ten minutes daily maths skills practice after lunch.

Science - For science this term they are looking at light: identifying various light sources, how light travels and how shadows are made. They will also investigate whether objects are transparent, translucent or opaque and if they reflect or refract light.



Food Technology - The children will be cooking toad in the hole, Guy Fawkes biscuits and scones. They will also be looking at some wartime recipes which include spam hash and cheese and potatoes dumplings. They will be making Christmas biscuits as a festive way to end the term.



Meadows School

Computing - Using technology to create music.

Art - The children have begun to look at the work of Alexander Calder to inspire their own mobiles.

PSHE - They are continuing with Keeping and Staying Healthy, finishing by examining the meaning of a healthy diet. Then they move on to health issues around smoking and alcohol. In Term 1 we had a visit from Fantastic Fred (from the NHS) giving young people good mental health advice. F for FOOD the importance of balanced diet. R for REST the importance of a good night's sleep. E for Exercise and D for DEVICES - limit your time on screen.



Citizenship/RE - They will continue to work on different celebratory days from around the world and different religious celebrations for RE including Diwali and Christmas, giving our learners an understanding of the world they live in, and peoples' differences and similarities.

PE - This term we have introduced Boogie Bounce which has low impact on joints with a good cardiovascular workout. Sequenced moves to music with jumps and foot work, all build their agility, balance, and coordination skills.



Environmental Science - This term the children are preparing their raised beds for winter, digging up dead plants and planting bulbs. They are planning how to develop our small wooded area as well as investigating birds in our environment. The children will continue to photograph changes they notice in our grounds - currently all the different fungi!



Homework

Please listen to your child read and practise times tables/mental maths (adding/subtracting in your head) at home regularly. We welcome feedback and are happy to suggest authors/texts to support your child, likewise we can suggest board and card games to support with maths. All children have active Mathletics accounts. Please let us know if you need the login details again and encourage pupils to work towards gaining 1000 points a week (worth 2 tokens). They can also log in to 'Epic!' to read books between 7am and 3pm on weekdays. The site also has audible books, quizzes and videos. Your child has been on this site at school this week with their teacher to remind them on how to access it and to look at some of the resources. The access code for each class will be emailed to you and the children have been given a paper copy. If you would like access at other times this requires a subscription and we could give you a link if interested.

Thank you for your continued support.

The KS2 staff team