

Maths

We began this term with a week of **Inspirational Maths**. This is designed to explore different, more practical ways of approaching mathematical problems and how to develop and maintain a growth mindset. This positive approach is one that we revisit throughout the year. This term we are building on prior learning of **place value** and the **four operations**, gaining a deeper knowledge of these areas and developing strategies to solve problems.

We will use **TTRockstars** in class to improve recall of all times tables and we encourage the use of this programme at home to support the children's learning.

Science

Living Things & their Habitats: Children will learn about sexual and asexual reproduction of plants; about lifecycles of amphibians, insects, mammals and birds and will discover what it takes to become a natural scientist.

Material consultants: Children will compare and group together everyday materials on the basis of their properties, including their hardness, transparency, and conductivity (electrical and thermal). They will give reasons, based on evidence from comparative and fair tests, for the particular uses of everyday materials, including metals, wood and plastic.

R.E.

This term, we will be exploring the question: **'What does it mean to be a Muslim in Britain today?'** Children will identify and explain Muslim beliefs about God, the Prophet and the Holy Qur'an; they will give evidence and examples to show how Muslims put their beliefs into practice in different ways. After half term, we will focus on the question: **Was Jesus the Messiah?**

Music

We are looking at **looping and remixing** before half term, before making a study of **blues music** after half term.

P.E.

This term in PE, we will be team building and orienteering and playing invasion games. Premier Sports will take PE lessons on **Monday and Friday** afternoons. Please make sure PE kits are in school on a Monday. We'll send them home for washing on a Friday. Every Wednesday, children will also be swimming at Tiverton swimming pool.

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History

Our History Topic before half term will be **'Were the Vikings raiders, traders or something else?'** We will be investigating what the Vikings were really like, creating a Viking trade route game, writing their version of a Viking saga, evaluating the impact of the Viking invaders on Britain and displaying the achievements of the Vikings in a 'Viking achievement gallery'.

Geography

After half term, our Geography topic will be: **'What is life like in the Alps?'** We will be considering the climate of mountain ranges and why people choose to visit the Alps.

English

This term, we will be looking at **poetry**. Using the Book of Hope, an anthology created during lockdown, we will be looking at the language, imagery and scope of poets who have been inspired by the concept of 'hope'. After half term, our study of poetry continues, using the theme of 'poems from a green and blue planet'. We will also be looking at **adventure stories** and **non-fiction recounts** of 'races in frozen places'.

Spellings will be set weekly, with a test on Friday mornings.

French

This term, we are looking at describing portraits and pictures, developing our **descriptive vocabulary** and constructing sentences. We then move onto a focus on family, developing language skills to ask questions and converse on this topic.

Computing

This term, we will be applying **programming skills** to create sounds and melodies leading to a battle of the bands performance! After half term, we will be developing storyboarding ideas, taking photographs and editing to create a **video animation**.

Art & Design

This term, we are looking at **sculpture and 3D art**. In particular, we will be exploring space and scale, installation art and creative concepts. We will also be creating our own amazing 3D art!

P.S.H.E.

We will continue to discuss and reflect upon **Character Virtues** during Collective Worship times. The virtues that we discuss will support us in our goal of becoming 'Inspiring Changemakers'. In PHSE, we will start the new year by thinking about **'Me and my relationships'** and will learn about **Valuing Differences** after half term.

Please feel free to contact the office if you would like to talk to Mrs Gillard or catch her in the mornings or at the end of the day in the playground.

Homework Rather than weekly maths and English homework, we will be setting half termly homework relating to our topic. This will be given out soon and will be due in on the penultimate week of term. The idea is that children complete some creative homework and strengthen their understanding of our topic work (starting with Vikings this term). Please look out for the homework which will explain this in more detail. As well as the topic homework, we expect children to be reading regularly at home (independently or with an adult) and also practising their times tables (using TTRockstars or on paper). Spellings will be given out on a Friday and children will be tested on the following Friday. Children can use **SPELLING FRAME** to practise their spellings or can choose to take home a paper copy of their spellings.