

Maths

This half term we will look at place value and the number system as well as our times tables and exploring how we can use these to work out other problems. We will also be adding and subtracting numbers using objects, pictorial representations and mental strategies.

Science

Living things and their Habitats

The children will explore how most living things live in habitats to which they are suited and describe how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants and how they depend on each other for their survival. We'll also be going on a Nature Walk around Crow Hill to explore the different habitats in our local area.

English

We will be writing an auto-biography about ourselves before carrying out some research into the life of the famous scientist Isaac Newton in order to write his biography. We will also be making a poster to persuade others to come and visit Cambridge. Then we will set our imaginations free to write wonderful stories set in familiar places.

Music

We will play tuned and un-tuned instruments this term and experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the inter-related dimensions of music. The children will learn a 'friendship song'.

PSHE

We will be exploring rights, rules and responsibilities. The children will help to create their own class rules and explore the Monkfield Way. They will learn how their responsibilities will change as they get older.

Topic

We will be learning about the super scientist, Isaac Newton and how he discovered gravity. As part of our topic work we will identify the close links between Isaac Newton and Cambridge in addition to investigating some of the important historical buildings in the city. We will discover who built them, how old they are, who lived and worked in them and what they are used for today. We will be going on a school trip to Woolsthorpe Manor, Isaac Newton's childhood home, and testing gravity for ourselves!

RE

We will be studying Judaism this term in addition to exploring how world religions focus on harvesting their crops and being thankful for what they have.

Cambridge-Town and Gown.

A look at the life and work of Isaac Newton

Art

In art, we will be using a range of tools including pens and paints to create pictures on different surfaces. We will experiment with the effects they give before creating a final piece.

MFL

The children will learn how to greet each other in many different languages.

Computing

Our focus will be E-Safety. We will learn how to use technology safely and respectfully; keep personal information private and identify where to go for help and support.

PE

Games: we will be practising our throwing and catching skills and inventing our own throwing game.

Gymnastics: we will be following a unit of work called 'Tall, Ball and Wall', which explores movements and shapes.

Violet and Indigo Class

Dear Parent/Carer,

We hope you have had a great Summer break and are ready for a very busy term. We will be available on the playground at the beginning and end of the school day if you need to speak to us or have any concerns. If you have any queries at any point during the year please do not hesitate to contact us or make an appointment to meet Mrs McCrae, Miss McSweeney or Ms Deegan.

Homework

Homework for English and Maths is set every Monday. It is to be returned by the following Monday. The homework will continue to be the topic grid –where the children select one activity per week. Children should complete at least one task from each of the rows over the half term. Such activities may include worksheets, games, Mathletics challenges, information gathering or extended project work. If your child has any problems with any part of their homework, they have been told to come to discuss the task with us before Thursday. If the homework is not completed to a good standard then it may need to be repeated. Please feel free to write comments in your child's book as to how you feel they coped with the tasks.

Spellings

Spellings will be set on Monday each week and will be tested the following Monday. The emphasis will be on spelling rules, patterns and strategies related to our work in phonics. Please note that if your child is on the Read Write Inc. programme they may not necessarily be tested on their spellings each week, but they will still be expected to learn their spellings.

Ways in which you can help your child:

- * Check homework books and support your child in completing their homework.
- * Regularly read with your child and discuss books with them.
- * Test your child on their spellings and practise counting forwards and backwards whenever you have a few minutes.
- * Practice 2, 3, 5 and 10 times tables.

PE

Children must have their correct PE kit in school at all times. Please ensure that your child brings their PE kit to school on Monday and that it is taken home to be washed on Friday. Children will need both indoor kit (blue shorts and a white T shirt) and outdoor kit (jogging bottoms, a sweatshirt, a separate white T shirt and sensible, supportive training shoes) throughout the term.

Parent helpers

Year 2 will have two trips this half term and we will require parent volunteers to help with both. However you will need to be on our list of volunteers and have a full DBS check which has been completed by school. Please speak to Mrs Taylor in the office about how to apply to become a volunteer. If you have any particular skills, interests or expertise you would like to share we would welcome you into school to share this with the children.

IMPORTANT DIARY DATES

16 th September	Meet the teacher evening
w/c 23 rd September	20 th year celebration week
w/c 30 th September	Harvest festival week
30 th Sept	Indigo class Woolsthorpe Manor trip
1 st October	Violet class Woolsthorpe Manor trip
10 th October	Parents' consultation evening (details to follow)
14 th October	Individual photographs
15 th October	Parents' consultation evening (details to follow)
18 th October	Last day of half term
28 th October	Children return to school