

P.E.

In P.E. this half term the children will be learning pair compositions during their gymnastics unit and net and wall games in our other P.E. slot.

History

Our topic for the second half term will be the life and times of children during the reign of Queen Victoria. We will explore what school and leisure activities would have been like for children at this time and how this would differ from the daily life of the very poorest children.

Computing

We will be learning to use spreadsheets using the Purple Mash app '2calculate'. This will include; conversions of measurements, use of the count tool, using formulas and using a spreadsheet to plan an event.

Music

With a focus on the Victorian Music Hall we will be learning how to play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using our voices and playing musical instruments. The aim is that the children will start to use the instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, and control.

Maths

In maths, we will continue to work through the Year 5 curriculum. Alongside our continuing work on the four operations, we will focus on fractions, ratio and proportion, problem-solving, reasoning and algebra. We will also work on geometry and properties of shapes in addition to studying decimals, fractions and percentages.

English

For our non-fiction writing focus, we will be studying the features of non-chronological reports by producing guides to Victorian ways of life. Two of the texts that will support our learning will be 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty and 'Oliver Twist' by Charles Dickens. Later on in the term we will complete some persuasive writing, learning how to influence the reader. In reading we are going to focus on comprehension question techniques.

The Children Who Built Victorian Britain

R.E.

The children will focus on Christianity, looking at the church year with a focus upon Christmas. They will also study who Jesus was and reflect upon their own views of who they are.

Spanish

Led by teachers of Spanish from Cambourne Village College, the children will be learning vocabulary for musical instruments and types of music and then giving opinions on their preferences.

Science

In science the children will learn about properties of materials, thermal conductors and insulators, soluble and insoluble materials and how to separate mixtures.

Design Technology

In D.T. we will be celebrating the Victorians by making Victoria sponge cakes! We will research the ingredients and where they would have sourced them in Victorian times.

P.S.H.E

The children will explore the emotions involved in change related situations and how feelings can change over time.

We hope you are looking forward to a lovely half-term break and that your children are ready for a fun and productive run up to Christmas. We will be available at the classroom door 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 this year, please do not hesitate to contact us or make an appointment to meet Miss Madden or Mr Frame.

Homework

As you know, homework for English and Maths is set every Monday. Homework grids are stuck in the beige and pink homework books and they are to be returned by the following Monday. The children are able to choose from a range of activities from the grids and are required to complete at least one a week, with at least one from each row completed by half term. We will continue to set online maths activities on www.mathletics.co.uk to consolidate learning at school and some children are now also using www.whizz.com. For any children that don't have internet access at home, we will ensure they have an opportunity to complete any online tasks at school.

Reading continues to be a big focus for the school. The requirement for Year 5 is that the children read for at least 15 minutes per day, which should equate to at least 70 pages per week. Their reading records need to be in school every day and will be checked on a weekly basis. In the event a child does not have their reading record or if they have not met the requirements set out above, they will need to make this up in their own time. Please sign the reading record to indicate when and how much your child has read at home.

The children have been told to approach us before Thursday if they are having problems with any part of their homework. Please feel free to write comments in your child's book as to how you feel they coped with the tasks set.

Spellings will be set on Monday each week and will be tested on Friday. We will include a spelling sheet with homework which will have their spelling words along with ideas for how to practise learning them.

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 their books with them, including asking lots of questions to ensure they have a good understanding of what they are reading.
- * Test your child on their spellings and the times tables they are working on (if any).
- * Encourage your child to visit www.mathletics.co.uk or www.whizz.com to work on their maths.

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 as necessary. 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. PE kit must be named in order to avoid a large amount of lost property. For safety reasons all earrings must be removed for PE lessons.

IMPORTANT DIARY DATES

Monday 28 th October 2019	Children return to school
Monday 11 th November 2019	Anti-bullying week
Monday 18 th November 2019	Assessment week
Tuesday 17 th December 2019	Christmas lunch & festive fun afternoon
Wednesday 18 th December 2019	Last day of term
Monday 6 th January 2020	Children back to school