

## LKS2 Autumn 2 Newsletter

### Our topics this term are 'Why do People Live Near Volcanoes?' and 'Electricity and Circuits'

#### English



This half term we will start by looking at poetry. We will study a poem about Autumn in depth, identifying interesting vocabulary and descriptive features. The children will then use what they have learned to write their own poem. We will also study a non-fiction text about the world beneath our feet, and the children will produce their own information text. We will continue to share a daily story as listening to story and rhyme really helps with a child's own reading.



Please encourage your child to read at least 3x a week. You could also enjoy reading and sharing a story together with your child at bedtime!

#### Maths



This half term, year 3 children will be continuing to learn to add and subtract using formal written methods and will also be introduced to multiplication and division. Year 4 children will be learning what area is and how to calculate it by counting squares and they will also be learning strategies to help with multiplication and division. As we are following a mastery approach, the children will be encouraged to use concrete apparatus and pictorial representations to support their learning.



Encourage your child to learn the times tables. If possible, children should use their TT Rockstars login to help them practice the times table.

#### Science



Our science topic for this half term is "Electricity and Circuits". Children will be learning about the difference between battery and mains powered appliances, the components of and how to build a circuit, switching circuits on and off and investigating electrical safety.



Encourage your child to explore the local environment, seeing you can identify different types of electrical appliances.

#### Geography



The children will be reminded of prior learning about the continents of the world, tectonic plates and human and physical features. We will be exploring why people choose to live near volcanoes, how the earth is structured, where mountains are found, why and where we get volcanoes and what the effects of a volcanic eruption are.



Talk to your child about any places that you may have visited that have ever had an earthquake or volcano.

## R.E.



How do festivals and family life show what matters to Jewish people? Within this unit, pupils will build on their knowledge about Jewish worldviews and way of life. They will recap work on Shabbat and deepen it by considering how different Jews today mark it. They will understand that Jews are diverse - beginning to use the language of Orthodox and Progressive. They will explore Shabbat, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Pesach to build up their understanding of festivals and ideas of forgiveness, remembering, and freedom.



Talk to your child about any festivals or celebrations that are important to you as a family.

## Computing



The children will be learning about online safety and how to keep safe whilst enjoying the internet. We will be talking about games they play at home, the reasons for age restrictions and what to do if they ever come across something online that makes them feel uncomfortable.



Encourage your child to talk to you about the games they play and what to do if they are unsure or feel uncomfortable.

## Design Technology

In DT we will be studying Shell Structures and will investigate how materials can be stiffened and strengthened to make a strong structure. The children will use their knowledge and skills to make a strong helmet and will assess their helmets' strengths and weaknesses.



Encourage your child to look at different types of helmets. What materials have been used? How has the helmet been made strong enough for the contents?

## Music



Within Music we will be learning how changes in tempo, dynamics and texture can create effects in music and how to develop a graphic score considering these. The children will also read, record and perform ideas using graphic notation.



Share a range of different types of music with your child. Can you identify a rhythm and pitch?

## French



In Year 3, the children will be exploring how to say different colours in French, different shapes and the work of Matisse. In Year 4, the children will be exploring the names of different clothes and their colours in French, a French clothes catalogue and where adjectives go within the vocabulary.



Do you know any French? Practice counting numbers in French with your child or get them to ask and answer their name.

**P.E.**



In PE this half term, KS2 will be learning about gymnastics and football. In gymnastics the children will be developing their movement skills to create complex sequences involving rolling, jumping and balancing. In football, the children will further develop their understanding of the principles of attacking and defending in invasion games, trying to outwit their opponents and working as a team towards a common goal. Please make sure your child comes to school in PE kit on each of their PE days, and to remove all earrings on their respective P.E. days, plus keeping long hair tied up.



### **Values/PSHE**

We are working as a school on our school Values along with our Golden Rules of showing 'Readiness, Respect & Responsibility.

Within our PSHE lessons, the children will learn about relationships. The importance of friendships and what constitutes as a positive healthy friendship, such as respect, trust, kindness, shared interests. We will also be looking at and respecting differences and similarities.



Please help your child work on 'Responsibility & Readiness' by encouraging them to maintain their attendance & punctuality (8.50am in their line on the playground) and reminding them to check they have a book bag, water bottle, snack and correct uniform each day.

**Homework** – The children will be given their Autumn 2 homework menu, so please have fun supporting your child completing these. We would like the children to complete three of these tasks by **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2025**.

**PE Days:** The children need to come into school in their PE kit on their PE days. The PE kit should consist of a red or white plain t-shirt, black shorts and trainers. Please make sure the children have a jumper and jogging bottoms, on the days they have PE, as their PE lessons will be outside.

**Sycamore: Monday and Wednesday**

**Birch: Tuesday and Thursday**

**Oak: Monday and Friday**

**Snacks:** The children can bring in a daily healthy snack to have during story time in the morning. Please can you also make sure that your child has a water bottle with them daily.

**Reading** - Listen to your child read as often as you can, we encourage reading with your child at least 3 times a week. Discuss the story, characters and meaning of new words. Try to ask them questions about what they have read to check their understanding.

**Spellings** - We are revising, reviewing and extending the children's knowledge and use of common exception words from year 1 to year 4. Spellings will be taught in lessons. The children will be encouraged to extend their vocabulary through the topics.

**Times tables** - There is a national push for children to know their Times Tables - not just in order to recite but also out of order (instant recall of what, for example,  $2 \times 8 =$ ) and also associated division facts ( $2 \times 8 = 16$  and so  $16$  divided by  $8 = 2$  and divided by  $2 = 8$ , again instant recall). We will be practising their x tables through TT Rockstars in school and we encourage the children to play this at home. Log in's will be in the children's reading records with their Purple Mash login's as well. Please encourage and have fun.

*Thank you for your continued support.*

*If you ever have any concerns, please do not hesitate to speak to us.*

**The KS2 Team**