LKS2 Autumn 1 Newsletter 2026

Our topics this half term are 'Vikings' and 'Light'.

English 

This half term we will be looking at story settings, plots and characters. The children will use visual stimuli and books without words, to stimulate their own language and ideas. We will also use our Iceland and Viking topics to provide stimuli for writing. We will have a daily story as listening to story and rhyme really helps with a child's own reading

Enjoy reading a story to your child at bedtime!

Maths 

This half term the children will be learning about place value and how to add and subtract using formal written methods. Year 3 children will be reading and writing numbers up to 1000 and year 4 children will be reading and writing numbers up to 10,000. As we are following a mastery approach, the children will be encouraged to use concrete apparatus and pictorial representations to support their learning meaning they will group objects into hundreds / tens / ones so they have a really secure knowledge of place value.

Count on and BACK with your child in ones and tens e.g. 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 70, 69, 68, 67 or 23, 33, 43, 53, 63, 53, 43, 33, 23.

Science 

Our science topic for this half term is 'Energy: Light and Shadows'. We will explore and investigate what light is and where is comes from, how light is reflected from surfaces, how and why shadows are formed, how light from the Sun can be dangerous and how shadows are formed.

Encourage your children to notice how some surfaces reflect light more than others and how shadows change depending on the time of day. You could try and create shadow puppets together.

History 

We are continuing to study the Vikings in History this half term. The children will learn who the Vikings were, where they came from and why they invaded Britain. We will also consider what life was like during Viking Britain.

Encourage your child to tell you what they have learned about the Vikings. Have you visited any of the countries the Vikings came from?

R.E. 

The children will be learning about how Jewish, Christian, Muslim and non-religious people care for the world.

Talk to your child/children about why it is important to try and make the world a better place. What can we do to achieve this?

Computing 

The children will continue to learn using Purple Mash to create a program for a simple game with actions using coding. The children will be trouble shooting their own programming. We will also be discussing online safety and the ways in which children can stay safe. We will talk 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.

Art

This half term in art we will be exploring how artists use shape in drawings. The children will use simple shapes to form the basis of a detailed drawing and will use shading to demonstrate a sense of light and dark in their work. They will develop their skills of shading and blending and will explore a range of textures.



Share your artistic sides with your child/children – can you create a drawing with shading and textures?

Music

This half a term, the children will be learning how to create rhythm and pitch by taking inspiration from a country garden.



Try singing a simple repetitive tune for your child to follow, changing the rhythm or see if you can follow theirs!

P.E. 

In PE this half term, the children will be taking part in a range of activities which will be enhancing their hand eye coordination as well as improving their understanding of invasion games. The children will be taking part in a range of activities including handball, netball, ball skills and fitness.

Please make sure your child comes to school in their PE kit, earrings removed if possible or taped over and hair tied up on their allocated PE days.

French

During the Autumn term the children in Year 3 will be learning about different French greetings, as well as adjectives of colour, shape and size. In Year 4, the children will be learning about describing people and their characteristics in French, as well as different items of clothing and accessories.

Values/PSHE

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

Within PHSE this half a term, we will be looking at how we can take care of both our mind and our body, as well as how we can make healthy choices.



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 their book bag, water bottle, and reading book each day.

Reading – Listen to your child read as often as you can. 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 x 8 =) and also associated division facts (2 x 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 log in's as well. Please encourage and have fun.

PE Days-

Birch- Tuesday and Thursday
Sycamore – Monday and Tuesday
Oak – Wednesday and Friday

Thank you for your continued support.
If you ever have any concerns, please do not hesitate to speak to us.

KS2 Team