



Welcome Back!

We have had a fantastic start to the year, the children have settled well back into school in a really positive way. I am excited to see where this year takes us and find out more about your child.

Reading

It is important that your child reads at home for at least ten minutes every day and at least 4 times a week out loud to an adult. Reading with your children will help them with their fluency and expression as well as aiding their understanding of new vocabulary. It is also important to question and discuss the book with your child to support understanding. As you listen to your child read, please record any comments in their reading record as well as any comments that they have about the book. Once they have finished reading the book, please encourage your child to change it when they arrive at school. If children read four times a week, they will receive a house point. If you have a moment, please read the following article as to why reading is so important to your child <https://www.gi-assessment.co.uk/press-office/press-releases/new-study-highlights-the-importance-of-reading-to-the-whole-school-curriculum/>

English

This term we have a fiction focus and will be reading ‘The Giant and the Sea’ by Trent Jamieson. This book allows for great imagination and exploration. As the term develops, we will recap word classes and your child will be taught how to write cohesively, use direct speech in their writing and maintain a high level of sentence structures throughout their work e.g. compound and complex sentences. As well as this, they will recap a range of spelling patterns e.g. silent letters, tricky suffixes and homophones. Guided reading sessions will take place daily as a whole class to provide closer support in developing the children’s comprehension skills and discuss the meaning of new words in the context that they are written.

Mathematics

This term, the class will begin looking at place value, addition and subtraction and developing their understanding of multiplying and dividing. The children will recap their knowledge and understanding of numbers and how these numbers can be rounded up or down. They will also learn how to add and subtract using the formal column method. This is one they would have come across before in their education and one most children enjoy. After this the children will move onto multiplication and division, they will be using the long multiplication method which will be familiar to them. However, they will be challenging themselves with larger numbers. Finally at the end of the term we will be finding factors and multiples of numbers.

Art

This term, Mrs Ravening will be teaching the children art. They will be focusing on sketch book skills. Including drawing, painting, sculpture and other art, craft and design techniques.

Science

In science, pupils will be finding out about Animals including Humans. They will be following the human life cycle seeing how humans change and how these changes can be linked to other animals. We will also investigate the gestation periods of some animals making graphs for comparisons.

Topic

During this term, pupils will be learning about Benin. They will listen to music and research modern and ancient Benin. They will gather information about the Benin Empire and learn about the warrior kings. They will also learn about the trading currencies of the Benin kingdom and how they changed over time.

Spellings

Children will continue to receive spellings every week to learn at home and in school. Please support your child by helping them to learn their spellings and encourage them to use the words given to them as often as possible. This could be when they are speaking or when they are writing.

Pupils will be given spellings every Monday and tested on them the following Friday. This will involve some focus words and words from the statutory Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 word list.

RE

Pupils will be covering the topic of Creation and Covenant. They will investigate the story of Abraham and begin to recognise that God's covenant with Abraham is the foundation of the faith of people in the Old and New Testament. They will also look at links made between prayers that show trust in God and the virtues of faith, love and hope.

Music

In this unit, we ask 'How Does Music bring us together?' We will investigate the history of music, finding the ancient origins connecting it to; friendship, peace and understanding each other.

PE

All children are expected to join in PE as it helps to develop their fine and gross motor skills as well as improving their mental and physical health. Our PE days are Monday and Tuesday. It is expected that children wear the correct kit for every lesson, which includes: yellow St Augustines T-shirt, black shorts and trainers or daps. If they need a jumper then this too must be a school jumper/plain black jumpers or the St Augustines hoodie.

PE kits need to be worn into school on PE days. Please ensure that if wearing earrings, children bring their own tape with them to cover the stud, and long hair should be tied up, as normal.

Swimming will start in January!