



Spring Term

KS1 Curriculum Newsletter



Dear Parents,

Welcome back! We hope you had a lovely break over Christmas - it is great to see the children again after the holidays.

This is the work that the children will be covering over the following term in Y1/2:

	<p>Topic: Mexico This term we are looking at Mexico and finding out what life is like there. We will be ordering Mexican history researching a place in Mexico and even trying to learn a little bit of Spanish. We will also be looking at festivals that are celebrated in Mexico and comparing with festivals that are celebrated in the United Kingdom.</p>	
	<p>Science: Space: What is out there? This term we will be exploring our solar system. We will be learning about the planets, the timeline of space events, researching famous astronauts and what life in space is like, how and why seasons change and why we experience both night and day. We will be linking our reading and writing to Science and are looking forward to writing space poetry, reading fiction books by our favourite authors and writing our own stories based in space.</p>	
	<p>Art: How do colours make us feel? We are looking at Mexican Hot and Cold Paintings. We will be: practising using a variety of tools and techniques; mixing primary shades and tones, mixing secondary colours and creating textured paint. Then we will use our skills to create a painting in the style of Mexican Hot and Cold Colour painting.</p>	
<p>PE: Gymnastics <i>Please ensure your child has their PE kit in school at all times. This includes shorts, t-shirt, suitable footwear and a tracksuit for colder weather.</i></p> 	<p>RE: What do Hindus celebrate? In RE we will looking at Hinduism as a religion and how they celebrate and worship God. We will practise meditation techniques using the Hindu traditional 'Aum' sound and look at Hindu festivals. This topic links into our trip at the end of January to the Hindu Temple in Bolton, so children can gain a real insight into who Hindu's are and what they believe.</p> 	<p>PSHE: How can we be healthy? We are looking at different ways of being healthy including; personal hygiene, healthy eating, mental health, exercise, sleep etc We will be working very practically; completing a hand washing experiment and comparing results of touching bread with unwashed, washed and hand gelwashed hands, we are making collaged healthy plates and touching on food groups and exploring a balanced diet, looking at good oral health, doing exercise and comparing our heart rate and mood before and after, discussing good mental health and reading Antony Browne's book Willy and the Cloud. The affects and consequences of lifestyle choices are discussed throughout.</p>
<p>Computing: Computer Science We begin a new topic in computing looking at algorithms. The children will start to discover how to program simple softwares using a sequence of instructions. We will be using lots of 'unplugged' activities to gain a better understanding of why we use algorithms and how it is important in not only technology but every day life; such as brushing our teeth, making a jam sandwich and baking a cake. This new topic will be challenging but engaging for the children as it involves lots of practical activities and computer work. Children will have the opportunity, once they have learnt algorithms to debug programs and predict whether a program will work based on the sequence of instructions.</p> 		<p>Music: This links to our Space theme. Initially children are listening and appraising a wide range of different pieces of music and discussing their purpose such as Brahms's Lullaby, Vivaldi's Four Seasons, Strauss's Sunrise, Elton John's Rocket Man and David Bowie's Space Oddity. Children then go on to explore pitch, tempo, texture and how music is recorded through crotchets and quavers and trying to combine all of this new learning to apply it within a group to make a performance about a journey into space.</p>
<p>Please ensure your child is always fully prepared for the school day with their school bag, water bottle, PE kit, reading record & reading book, homework, and anything else they may have been asked to bring in.</p> 		<p>Home learning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read at home for 15-20 minutes every day and sign reading records • Practice spellings • Learn times tables • Complete any weekly Maths & English • Complete half termly project work 