



Spring 1

Starlings' Curriculum Newsletter



Dear Parents,

It is lovely to welcome you all back after the half term break. We are looking forward to starting a new half term which we predict will be full of lots of new learning and exciting new units.

Geography:

'Cottonopolis' – Westhoughton Weavers

In Geography this term, we are learning about 'Cottonopolis' as an extension of our 'Weavers at Work' topic. We will look at the surrounding area through maps, trade routes and the link with Manchester, relating to the cotton industry of Westhoughton. We will learn about the impact upon the land that we see today, this industry had and make comparisons between the 19th and 20th centuries. We will examine how this affected local life, even today, bringing the benefits of transport and movement to the region. Culminating with examining what industrial archaeology remains in Westhoughton today.

Art:

L.S Lowry - Painting



This term, we will be studying the works of L.S Lowry and the impact upon the people of Manchester his paintings had. We will examine his unique 'style' and the images he chose to paint, particularly as a link to our Geography topic. We will be experimenting with different painting techniques, mixing to create tone and shade, eventually finishing with a painted piece inspired by Lowry.

Science: In Science this term, we are learning about Light. We will look at why light is important and that dark is the absence of light, how light is reflected from different surfaces and recognise that light from the sun can be dangerous. We will learn about how shadows are formed and investigate how the sizes of shadows change. We will look into transparent, translucent and opaque materials and design either a pair of sunglasses/hat that will protect someone's eyes from the sun.

PE: In PE this term we will be learning about invasion games, focusing on football.



PE days – Monday and Thursday.

Please ensure your child comes into school in the appropriate PE kit and have a bottle of water in school.

RE: What is it like to be a Hindu in Britain today?

We will learn how Hindus show their faith within their families and communities. We will look at Hindu culture and learn about where many Hindu communities are based.



PSHE:

LGBT+ History Month



This half term we learn about LGBT+ History Month by exploring significant individuals such as Tom Daley. We will also explore the impact we have on our planet. We will study money, and examine how the choices we make shape our future.

French: Colours



We will listen to, say, read and write the names of ten colours.

Computing:

In Computing, we will revisit algorithms, programming and sequencing. We will also learn about 2code, Beebots, 2go and how the instructions we give need to be clear. We will look into Scratch and how to code characters to do a certain task.



Music: Local Musicians – The Beatles' Blackbird

We will listen to three songs by The Beatles. Each week, we will learn to sing, copy rhythms and play the glockenspiels to Blackbird.



Please ensure your child is always fully prepared for the school day with their school bag, PE kit, reading record & reading book, homework, and anything else they may have been asked to bring in.



Home learning:

- Read at home for 15-20 minutes every day
- Practice spellings
- Learn times tables
- Create one example from the half termly project list



Home reading: **Please ensure that your child reads 5 times a week**

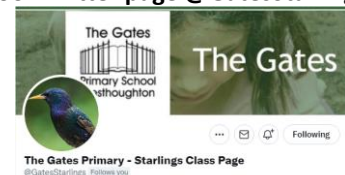
Reading Challenge

5 x= Green
2/3/4= Yellow
0/1= Red

If your child achieves green for the week, they will be entered into a special prize draw!

Only books that children take home from school will go towards the reading challenge – either the home reader or a book from the 100 Book Challenge. This will ensure that your child is reading books appropriate for their ability.

Our School Twitter page @GatesStarlings



We have a new school twitter page which we update regularly. You can see all the exciting things we have been getting up to in school and how hard the children are all working. Please give us a follow to keep updated!

