



Spring 2

Woodpeckers' Curriculum Newsletter



Dear Parents,

We are pleased to welcome you all back ready to start the next half of the Spring term. We have lots of exciting new units for the children to enjoy and are looking forward to seeing the work that they produce, both at home and in school.

Geography:



'Maps and Mapping' – Local Study

In Geography this term, we will extend our knowledge of maps by studying our local area. We will focus on the key skills of map-reading, the study of local Ordnance Survey maps and the use of 8 compass directions. We will then compliment this with a further study of Westhoughton, using map symbols and the 3D creation of our own maps to support our knowledge of fieldwork. This geographical study will help us to understand our place in the UK and why it is important to know what the human and physical features of our town are.



Design Technology:

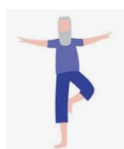
Mechanisms



This term we will be focusing our learning on designing and creating a light box. This will be made from solid materials to complement our study of circuits and resistant materials. We will begin by looking at how light boxes are used to advertise, support business and are used for health and safety purposes. This will culminate in our skills based work of using bulbs, wiring and batteries including switches.

Science: In Science this term, we will continue to focus on Light, Reflection and Shadows and extend our knowledge by conducting investigations, predicting what might happen and ask relevant questions to answer scientific enquiries. We will look at scientific language to explain our thoughts, look around school to find opaque, translucent and transparent objects, test different materials for sunglasses and conduct an investigation into the positions of shadows depending on the light source.

PE: In PE this term, we will be focusing on the skills and techniques in order to play Tag Rugby.



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

RE: Why do Christians call the day Jesus died Good Friday?

We will learn about the events from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday and reflect on the thoughts and feelings of people then, when it happened, and now. The word Salvation will be introduced and we will learn it is the Christian belief that it is the rescue of humans; that it is a way back to God and that sin is forgiven.

PSHE:



This term, we will continue our learning of 'Living in the Wider World' and LGBT+ History Month by examining our community closer to home. We will study what makes a community and our impact on planet Earth, including our digital and environmental footprints.

French: Numbers 1-10

We will revise greetings and colours then introduce numbers from one to ten.

Computing: In computing, we will continue our Computer Science topic by looking at complex algorithms, how to write and use simple programs, how to sequence a code to make a program, how to add more detail on 1 program and how to use loop/repeat in a program.



Music: Local Musicians – The Beatles' Blackbird

We will listen to songs by Take That, Simply Red and Oasis. Continuing with our learning of music by The Beatles, we will 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. Reading books will be changed on a Friday.

Our School Twitter page @GatesWoodpecker



The Gates Primary - Woodpeckers Class Page
@GatesWoodpecker

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!