



Academy Newsletter

Term 3

I can't believe we are already part way into Spring Term. Please see below some updates for this half term.

Stay Safe Partnership

We are very pleased to share that we have booked online safety workshops (20th April) and healthy relationship workshops (12th May) for years 2 – 6 with the Stay Safe Partnership.

PE Kit

Please can **every** year group bring their PE kits in on a **Monday**, and they will come home at the end of the week or after their last PE lesson. We have many children who are not bringing any PE kits to school, and we don't have enough spare kit for them all.

Swimming

Moving forward we are now only able to offer year 6 swimming lessons which will be held during the summer term. More details to follow soon. ☺

Forest School

Reception are currently working on their Forest School skills with Jen and next half term it will be year 1. ☺

Balanceability and Scootability

We are excited to share that Reception will be completing Balanceability next half term and Y1 will complete Scootability after Easter on a Monday morning.

Friendship Disco

Don't forget the Friends of School have organised a friendship disco for 12th February. KS1 will be held in the afternoon and KS2 will be 5.30-6.30pm. Tickets are £1 and can be given to class teacher.

Can I also take this opportunity to thank our Friends of School for all their hard work and dedication.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Dates for your diary!

Height and Weight (Rec and Y6) – 29th January

End of term – 13th February

Term 4 start date – 23rd February

Parents Evening – 9th and 10th March

World Book Day – 5th March



What's coming up this term....

Reception

This term is an exciting one as we are starting off with Forest School! The children will be taking their learning outside, having the opportunity to explore, experiment and put their imagination to the test. Jen has planned fun-filled, natural activities that will inspire the children and facilitate their learning. Keep an eye out for lots of pictures!

Last term we enjoyed learning all about Diwali and Christmas and this term we will be carrying on the celebrations with Chinese New Year and Valentines.

A theme for this term will be 'Winter'. We will be learning about the polar regions, Antarctica and Arctic, alongside animals and their habitats. The children will enjoy a local walk to explore the changes that happen in this season.

Year 1

This term, we will be diving into the magical world of Julia Donaldson and exploring her wonderful array of books, such as *The Gruffalo* and *Room on the Broom*. These stories will form the basis of much of our reading and writing, sparking creativity and imagination. In maths, we will focus on numbers up to 20, developing skills in counting, as well as understanding "one more" and "one less." We'll also introduce addition and subtraction, helping to strengthen their mathematical understanding. In science, the children will explore the fascinating world of animals and their habitats. We will also look at what animals eat and how they adapt to their environments. In history, the children will learn about the life and heroic acts of Florence Nightingale and her significant impact on healthcare. Our music lessons will complement our science topic by exploring high and low pitch sounds, inspired by the animals we study. In PE, we will use weather as a stimulus for dance, where the children will create and perform actions to represent different weather conditions. In RE, we will explore the beliefs of Islam, looking at what Muslims believe about God and how their faith influences their daily lives. Lastly, in computing, we will be focusing on improving typing skills and learning how to edit and enhance written work, helping the children become more confident with technology. It promises to be a busy and exciting term, full of learning and discovery, and we are looking forward to supporting your child's progress in all of these areas.

Year 2

We are looking forward to another busy term in Year 2! In maths we will be focusing on money for a couple of weeks then multiplication and division later on in the term. In science we are starting a new topic all about animals including humans. We are going to discuss the importance of personal hygiene, exercise, looking after our teeth and eating the right amounts of different foods. In history we are going to explore space landings and significant people such as Neil Armstrong and Tim Peake. In geography we are identifying different parts of the world using maps. There is a cross curricular link in our computing and music lessons this term where we will be using IT to make music. Jigsaw Jo is excited to hear all about our dreams and goals in our PHSE lessons. We are looking forward to starting yoga in PE this term too.

Year 3

This term promises to be an exciting journey of discovery and learning! In science, we will dive into the fascinating world of rocks, uncovering how they are formed, exploring their different types, and learning about their crucial role in shaping our planet. Geography will take us on an adventure through rivers and mountains, as we investigate how these natural wonders are formed and their importance to human life. In history, we will step back in time to the era of the Anglo-Saxons, exploring their rich culture, daily life, and the legacy they left behind in shaping Britain today. Design and Technology will inspire our creativity and practical skills as we learn the art of cooking, mastering essential techniques and whipping up delicious recipes. In English, we will immerse ourselves in a range of captivating texts, delving into new stories, ideas, and perspectives to develop our reading and writing skills. Finally, maths will challenge us to sharpen our problem-solving abilities as we tackle written methods for multiplication and explore the practical world of measurements. It's going to be a term full of curiosity, creativity, and exciting challenges!

Year 4

Our topic this term is 'The Stone Age' which we are calling 'We will rock you!'. We will be looking at how and when the Stone Age started, how it developed over about 2.5 million years, and how it progressed into the Bronze and Iron Age. Geography will run alongside our history topic on order to look at settlements, mapping skills and the different features of rivers. In English, we will be reading the wonderful 'Weslandia' and the fascinating 'Until I Met Dudley'. For Weslandia, the children will create a civilisation of their own based on the one that Wes creates in the story itself, whilst for Until I Met Dudley we will be creating a formal and informal report on a scientific application of the children's choosing. In our reading sessions, we will be reading the inspiring "The Undefeated" which focusses on black history and "The Humans" which will teach the children many of the greatest achievements of ancient civilisations. Spellings will focus on the patterns 'ure', 'ly', 'ous', 'ch' and 'que'. In our Maths sessions, we will be focusing on multiplication and division with more opportunities to practice for our upcoming Multiplication Tables Check that is coming in the following term! This will be followed by a unit of Length Area and Perimeter. In Art we will produce many pieces of Stone Age inspired work using the artist Stephen Morris as our inspiration. We will also make stone age round houses using clay in D&T. In computing, the focus will be on programming in order to develop our coding skills. Music will be a combination of our singup scheme and using singing to learn about history, whilst PE will give the children the opportunity to play team games and learn gymnastic skills. Finally, in worldviews we will be thinking about whether spirituality can make things better, whereas in PSHE the focus will be on staying motivated when trying to achieve our goals.

Year 5

In the first half of the Spring Term, Year 5, will be focusing on using consistent written/column methods for multiplication and division, before moving on to finding fractions of amounts and increasing our knowledge of decimals and percentages. In English, we will be using the book 'Anne Frank' by Josephine Poole, alongside extracts from Anne's original diary. We will then be writing letters, diary entries and short descriptions based on these texts. Our focus text in reading sessions will be 'Letters from The Lighthouse' by Emma Carroll, which is a fantastic story linked to evacuation in World War Two. Our Science topic is 'Animals, including Humans', and this will see us looking at the different stages of human development and growth. In History, our topic is World War Two. We will look at how the war started, before moving on to looking at the blitz, evacuation, rationing and how they had an impact on children's lives. During Art lessons, we will be focusing on the work of Paul Nash in our 'Capturing Conflict' topic. He produced many sketches and paintings of scenes from WW2, and we will be looking to use a range of techniques to produce work of a similar style. Our

focus in PSHE will be 'Dreams and Goals', where our focus will be looking at how these can be achieved and to become more aware a wider range of jobs and professions. In Computing, we will be looking at a range of databases and in music our focus is listening to and creating soundtracks and film scores. In PE the children will be working on their gymnastic skills with the Synergy Sports Coaches. In addition, we will also be looking at a Dance unit, where we will also be making a link with the music and dance of World War Two.

Year 6

In module 3, during Maths, the year 6 children will learn about different measures including metric and imperial and how to convert between them. They will then move onto learning about ratio and proportion by using drawings and shapes, followed by algebra - finding a rule and substituting in numbers to a formula. The English learning will give focus to drafting and presenting a newspaper article and our second narrative of the year. This writing will be inspired by two texts - The Last Bear by Hannah Gould and The Invention of Hugo Cabret by Brian Selznick. A range of skills will be learnt including figurative phrases using similes and personification, using direct speech (including informal structure), relative clauses beginning with different relative pronouns, using the passive voice and understanding how hyphens can be used to avoid ambiguity. During reading, year 6 will also use text by Brian Selznick to develop understanding of retrieval, inference, word meaning and comparisons across and within texts. During Science learning, children will investigate how light travels in straight lines and explain why shadows have the same shape as the objects that cast them. The Victorian era is the period of time that our pupils will learn about in History. Specifically, they will learn about how children's lives were different to modern times, understand how conditions in factories and houses were at the beginning of Victoria's reign and explain the impacts of the Industrial Revolution. Creatively, year 6 will focus on futuristic drawings in Art and learn how to sing in harmony in Music. For PE, the year 6 pupils will take part in gymnastics lessons and will also improve and build upon prior learning about the sport of badminton including serving, overhead shots and playing against other competitively. Finally, in RSHE, the focus will be dreams and goals. Learning will encourage thinking about having steps to success and thinking about goals and dreams that can make a difference to other people's lives.