



Our curriculum drivers are elements that are central to our school vision and ethos. They help to drive and shape the curriculum and are incorporated across all subjects and themes. They are:

Values:

To us, this means being self-responsible, deep thinkers and caring citizens.

Learning for Life:

To us, this means the ongoing and self-motivated desire to learn and grow.

Health and Well Being:

To us, this means keeping healthy and safe both physically and mentally.

Enrichment:

To us, this means deepening thinking and enhancing experiences.

Within daily English lessons we will be focussing on becoming masters of our curriculum.

The genres we will be focussing on this half term are: persuasive writing across different styles and explanations texts.

Our first genre will be looking at persuasive texts, where the children will investigate the use of language for influential and convincing purposes such as adverts and brochures, and understanding the subtle differences between them. We will develop these persuasive writing skills further by writing purposeful letters, where the children will write at length to argue their viewpoint in an attempt to persuade the reader to agree.

After this, we will look back at non fiction writing in the form of explanation texts, where we will look at processes within our previous Science topic of 'Space' to help consolidate this learning completed while working from home.

Within daily Maths lessons we will be focussing on becoming masters of our curriculum.

We will be starting this half term by continuing our topic on Fractions and applying it to real life scenarios, finding fractions of amounts/numbers and solving problems.

Later in the half term, we will begin to look at the use of decimals (learning up to 3 decimal places) as well as percentages. We will investigate the relationship between percentages, fractions and decimals.

When back at school, we will continually revisit topics covered during home learning, such as equivalent fractions, comparing and ordering fractions, adding and subtracting fractions and multiplying fractions in order to plug gaps in learning.

As scientists, we will be looking at the topic of 'Forces'. We will be beginning by learning about what different forces are such as 'gravity, friction, air resistance, water resistance and buoyancy'. We will explore key scientists such as Galileo and Newton and how they suggested theories about gravity and distinguish between 'mass' and 'weight'. Once at school, we will be carrying out our own investigations, ensuring we are conducting 'fair tests' at all times. We will be altering one variable at a time to test our own theories and to deepen our understanding of forces.

As historians, we will continue to focussing on the big question 'What legacy did the Ancient Greeks leave behind?'. Having looked at aspect such as democracy, Olympics, and past times, we will now look at prevalent battles as well as consolidating ideas from the previous half term while working at home.

In Geography, we will be focussing on recapping previous learning within the subject and developing our general knowledge in key areas such as continents, countries, capitals and locations, map reading skills.

As Artists, we will be focussing on the topic of life drawing which will lead on to 3D sculpture work. We will investigate examples of the work of artists specialising in sculptures such as Giacometti, Hepworth and Degas. We will start by using drawing to build up our idea of 3D images as well as focusing on the use of proportion within this.

As Musicians we will be looking at a new topic of 'Rhythm'. During this topic we will be learning Ostinato patterns inspired by West African drumming as well as understanding how rhythmic cycles feature in Indian classical music. We will also explore key characteristics and different elements of Samba to create an exciting performance.

Home Learning Project:

As an extra for this half term, we are encouraging children to take an interest in food planning and preparations in order to maintain a healthy lifestyle and balanced diet. This may include planning a family meal considering the necessary food groups as well as preparing and cooking food safely and hygienically where they can develop and refine important life skills. We really want to encourage children to share positive experiences with family, take time away from using a screen and consider how foods are fuel for our bodies and brains.

In PE this half term, we will be building our skills in net and wall games considering how to direct the ball in different ways. We will also draw upon our previous learning considering attacking and defending techniques to work as a team using tactics.

French This half term we will continue our topic 'In the city' which will include asking and giving directions as well as vocabulary used when shopping in a French market and shopping centre. We will develop our vocabulary on food items, clothing and colours as well as asking for specific amounts of items. Throughout this topic we will be practising our speaking, listening, reading and writing language skills.

Special Days and Festivals this half term:

4th March: World Book Day

PSHE We will have a focus on the topic of 'living in the wider world'. Here we will discuss schools across the world and compare them to our own. We will also look at the government and politics, how democracy works and dealing with money.

RE We will relate our lives to some values within Judaism, looking particularly at 'freedom'. We will do this by learning about the story of 'Passover' otherwise known as Pesach and how this important festival is celebrated with a seder dish.

This half term you can help your child at home by:

- Encouraging them to read for pleasure by discussing their books, asking questions to encourage deeper thinking and sharing your enthusiasm.
- Ensuring your child is familiar telling the time both from a digital and analogue clock.
- Encouraging a healthy lifestyle through exercise and a balanced diet. E.g., involving your child in the planning and preparation of meals for themselves and the family or finding creative ways of keeping fit and active.
- Encouraging them to put 100% effort into their school work , whilst recognising the importance of a healthy mindset.
- Giving opportunities for mindfulness activities e.g., colouring, breathing techniques and positive reflections.