

Inspiring Curriculum Newsletter

Merlins

Spring 2017



Our Theme:

Spring Term 1 – We Are What We Eat

Spring Term 2 – Buildings

Our Key Values:

Caring Commitment to Achieve Co-operation Fairness Honesty Respect



Welcome back Merlins! We hope you all had a lovely Christmas break and are ready for an exciting term ahead. We have an exciting new topic this half term called 'We Are What We Eat' and in the second term we will be studying Buildings. Here is what you need to know about the curriculum, along with some specific information for the Merlins. If you have any questions, as always please don't hesitate to contact me. I am available before school and after school by appointment.

English

During this term we will continue to link our English with our IPC units. This term we will use visual literacy to enhance our learning and we look forward to using movies such as The LEGO movie and Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs. We will also complete food tasting and non-fiction writing on our topics. Each week we will continue to have specific lessons on handwriting and spellings, along with a focused lesson on grammar, punctuation and vocabulary. Daily guided reading lessons and a discrete phonics lesson at the start of every day will continue as normal.

Mathematics

In Mathematics, we will continue to learn about counting, partitioning and calculating; securing number facts, understanding shape; handling data and measure. All the contexts in these lessons, including problem-solving ones, will link to the IPC units where appropriate.

Science

We will be following the Science content from our IPC Unit on Buildings this term as well as a specific unit on everyday materials. This will involve many investigations and experiments on the qualities of different materials and types of glue!

R.E

In this term, we will be studying 'Visiting a Christian Church' and the Holy Trinity, which has many links to our Term 2 IPC unit on Buildings.

Computing

We will continue to learn about different computing programs through our two units this Spring. In Term 1 this will be 'We are Painters' and in Term 2 it will be 'We are Collectors'. The children will continue to use the computers to access activities and websites in both English and maths.

Jigsaw

This term we will be learning about dreams and goals and also how to ensure a healthy body. We will have fun learning about what we want to achieve and how we can keep healthy.

P.E

During term 3 we will be using our dancing feet! During term 4 we will become gymnasts.

International Primary Curriculum

We learn these subjects through our theme. For our themes we have an entry day to enthuse the children and an exit day to celebrate all that we have learned.

Term 1
Our theme is 'We are what we eat'.
We are visiting TESCO to find out what happens behind the scenes and where our food comes from. In the morning we will talk about what meals we like and where our food comes from.
We hope to create a pizzeria at the end of term for our Exit Day and invite you along to sample food we have made.
Term 2
Our theme is Buildings
The children will be introduced to different types of buildings and structures. In the morning of the WOW day, the children will design a building (current or future) using just junk! In the afternoon they will construct it and share their finished and evaluated structure to the rest of the class.
We hope to take part in a build a den day with Market Rasen Church of England Primary School.

Term 1 + 2
As Historians we will be learning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What people ate in the past • How buildings were made in the past • How buildings have been used in the past • How people travelled in the past
As Artists we will be learning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create pictures using food • How to draw pictures of local buildings • How to make and decorate models of buildings • How to make prints
As Geographers we will be learning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where our food comes from • What parts of the world different foods are grown and why • About different houses, homes and other buildings around the world • How to use maps and atlases to locate the different countries these buildings are in
As Designers we will be learning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create our own meals • How to make picture frames • How to make models of houses
As Scientists we will be learning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The health benefits of different types of food • How to test the strength of structures • About materials used in structures
In International we will be learning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What people eat around the world • About the different houses people live in, in different countries

Important Information

Our weekly homework will be set on **Thursday** and returned on **Monday**. I set homework that links to our current learning in class and should mostly be able to be completed independently without the need for lots of adult support. If you are ever unsure of how to complete homework, for example a type of calculation, please pop and see me as I would be happy to help you.

Children will be able to have their reading book changed on a Monday and Thursday by an adult. If you would like a more regular book change I am happy for you to pop into the classroom to choose one yourself. Please let me know if this is something you'd like to do. Remember, every time your child finishes a book and has their reading diary signed, this will go towards a reading certificate, which will be presented in our Key Stage One Collective Worship.

Please understand that the children's reading stage will be changed when they have demonstrated over a period of time that they have improved their fluency and comprehension on that stage. There are a number of varied books for each reading stage and it is important that the children read a breadth of different genres. Before making the decision to move the children up a level, I always consult their National Curriculum reading level first.

Our P.E days are: **Tuesdays and Fridays**- Children will need their indoor/outdoor PE kit in school every day as sometimes there may be changes to the timetable. If your child wears earrings please make sure they are removed before school (or can be removed by the child themselves on these days).

We are looking forward to further cooking opportunities this term with Mrs Barnes. Remember we would love to see pictures of children cooking at home, especially if you decide to recreate some of the dishes we make here.

Whilst your child will always read to an adult once a week in guided reading (and additional times if there are available adults), we are always looking for parents willing to come into school to listen to the children read. If you can help with this it would be greatly appreciated. Please speak to us if you think you can help.

As always, we look forward to working with you and your child. If you have any questions about the content of this newsletter, please do not hesitate to ask me.

Kind Regards

Miss Walford