

Inspiring Curriculum Newsletter

Merlins

Spring 2018



Our Themes:

Spring Term 1 – All Dressed Up

Spring Term 2 – The Circus Is Coming
To Town



Our Christian Values:

Caring

Commitment to Achieve

Co-operation

Fairness

Honesty

Respect

Welcome Back Merlins! I hope you have had an amazing Christmas holiday and are as excited to start our new school term as I am! I am looking forward to a fun packed, exciting term with our fantastic topics!

English

During this term, we will be linking our English with our IPC topics and will be writing about clothes and using films and books as our visual stimulus in English. We will also continue to work on our handwriting and we are looking forward to seeing the fantastic improvements made by the children in this area. We will also be concentrating on spelling, grammar and punctuation. Next term, we will be looking at Dumbo in English and will be taking part in many activities that will link with our IPC topic.

Maths

In Maths this term, we will be looking at number and place value to begin with. Then we will move onto looking at fractions and time. We will strive to link our maths lessons to our IPC topics wherever possible, as we do in all of our lessons, and will ensure that they are interesting, exciting and challenging for all children in the class.

Science

In Science this term, we are learning all about plants. We will look at the features of plants and growing some of our own bean stalks! In term two, we will be looking at living things and their habitats.

R.E

In R.E this term, we will look at Incarnation and understanding how Christians celebrate this in the Christian calendar. In term two we will be learning about salvation in Christianity.

Computing

In Computing, we will be learning about programming. We will be looking at how simple games are programmed, will test them then we will change the algorithms to see the impact that this has on the game.

PSHE

This term, we are learning about dreams and goals. We will learn to recognise our dreams and goals and how we will aspire to achieve them. In term two we will be looking at celebrating differences and why it is good to be different.

P.E

In P.E the children will be taking part in dance, which will include looking at movement and rhythm. Next term, they will be concentrating on gymnastics, which will include balance skills as well as travel.

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.

Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2
Our IPC theme this term is All Dressed Up.	Our theme is The Circus is Coming to Town
On our WOW day we will become clothing designers. We will be designing and making clothing for our teddy bears. We will also be sorting old and new clothing and unpicking clothes to see how they are made.	Our entry day will be a carousel of activities. <u>Activity 1</u> The children will take part in a circus skills workshop. <u>Activity 2</u> This activity will consist of the children completing a knowledge harvest. They will discuss what they already know about the circus and then they will decide what they would like to learn about the circus. They will also be making paper plate clowns in this session. <u>Activity 3</u> During this activity the children will be creating a circus tent of their own using a variety of materials.
On our exit day we will be creating our own hat using methods we have looked at over the term.	Our exit day will celebrate the completion of this unit by holding auditions for the class circus. We will be looking for entertainers of all kinds – especially clowns, jugglers, magicians, mime artists and acrobats!
Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2
As Historians we will be learning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to find out about the past. • To order events and objects into a sequence. • To identify differences between our own lives and those of people who have lived in the past. 	As Historians we will be learning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What circuses were like in the past • About some of the people who made circuses famous • How circuses have changed over the years
As Artists we will be learning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To use different materials and processes. • To comment on works of art. • To suggest ways to improve our own work. 	In Geography we will be finding out: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to draw maps and plans of a circus • How to use maps and atlases to find out about the countries some circus animals come from.
In Technology we will be learning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To plan what they are going to make. • To describe our plans in pictures and words. • To use simple tools and materials to make products. • To comment on their own plans and products and suggest areas of improvement. 	As Artists we will be learning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to draw faces and understand expressions • About the work of artists who have painted pictures about the circus
In Geography we will be learning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To use geographical terms. • To communicate our knowledge and understanding in a variety of ways. 	In society we will be finding out: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to stay safe in busy places • What it's like to be a circus artist

Important Information

Our weekly homework will be set on **Thursday** and returned on **Monday**.

Our P.E days are: **Tuesday and Friday**

The children will have the opportunity to read to an adult often in school and change their reading book 3 times a week. If your child is an avid reader and would like to read more then please let me know and I can send home two books at a time so that they can read everyday. It is also very important they are reading at home to help them progress through the various different stages and improve their vocabulary which in turn helps them in their writing. 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.

We encourage the children to be as independent as possible in Key Stage 1, including developing their responsibility for bringing their P.E. kits, homework and spelling books on the correct day, and reminding them to change their reading books when they need to. We ask for your support with this.

We are looking forward to a very exciting and fun, packed term with lots of learning taking place throughout. We are always grateful to our parents who come in and help us with swimming and trips around Market Rasen. If you are able to give up an hour a week to hear readers we would be very grateful. The children love reading to someone new and we would love to welcome you into the classroom to help.

Kind Regards

Miss Walford