

Curriculum Newsletter

Merlins

Spring 2022



Our Theme:

“Where In The World?”

Our Christian Values:

Caring Commitment to Achieve Co-operation Fairness Honesty Respect



Welcome back to school! We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break. The children have all settled in and it's been lovely to hear about their holidays. We are all very excited with the new curriculum and learning we have planned this year, continuing with our Spring term topic: “Where In The World?” The children will engage with a WOW day where we explore our local area and we will be doing an exit day to celebrate all of the fantastic learning, which has taken place over the term. Here is what you need to know about the curriculum, along with specific information for our class. As always, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Spring Term 2022
Our theme is 'Where in the world?'
On our WOW day we will explore our local area.
As part of our Exit day, we shall be exploring a different local area and comparing it to our own.

English

During the Spring Term, we will be linking our English closely with our Geography topic and using some great texts that we are sure the children will enjoy.

We will be continuing to practice our key skills, such as using a range of punctuation and we will be using expanded noun phrases to enhance descriptions.

We will explore an exciting range of texts such as 'The Snail and the Whale' and the 'Meerkat Mail'. We will be writing reports, non-chronological reports and letters. We will be starting our term with exploring poetry and writing our own acrostic poems.

In all of our writing purposes, we will build resilience in our learning by firstly planning aloud what we wish to write about, before writing down key ideas while exploring new vocabulary. We will be developing our editing skills to produce some excellent final pieces of work.

We will continue to have daily reading sessions in separate year groups, looking at vocabulary and comprehension, and discrete Phonics lessons during the mornings. Spelling and handwriting will also remain high priorities in all of our written lessons.

Maths

In Maths this term, we will begin by exploring multiplication and division. This will include grouping numbers, sharing numbers and drawing arrays to show our understanding. We will also continue to consolidate and develop our understanding of place value as this will help us with our other number work. We will progress to learning about fractions. We will learn how to understand that a fraction is an equal share of a whole and we will do this in a practical way. Many parts of our learning will be visual as this is key to understanding fractions.

Later in the term, we will begin to work on position and direction.

Phonics

This term we are excited to launch our new Phonics scheme in school: Little Wandle Letters and Sounds. To develop reading and Phonics further we have brought in some fantastic fully decodable books that run alongside the scheme.

Science

Within Science, we will be learning about plants. We will explore the different types of plants and be able to identify plants using our knowledge. We will be planting our own bean to demonstrate how plants develop.

R.E

Our topic in RE this term is 'Thankfulness'. We will discuss the importance of why we say thank you and within this learning we will explore how different faiths can show thanks with different celebrations.

Computing

In Computing we are going to be treasure hunters and develop our programming skills. We aim to programme Bee-Bots to move around the floor.

PSHE

This year we will be continuing with the Jigsaw scheme. In this term we will begin with 'Dream and Goals' and after half term the unit will be 'Healthy Me'.

DT

In DT, we are excited about designing and making our own vehicles powered by wind. We will start by looking at different vehicles and then begin to think about how to make our own. We are very excited to make and test our vehicles.

Geography

Our unit of 'Where in the world' will explore our local area and develop our understanding of different counties around the world.

Cooking in the Curriculum

We are going to learn a range of cooking skills, such as how to stir, spread, knead and shape a range of food and ingredients. We will also begin to learn how to work safely and hygienically within a kitchen environment. We will be making our own breakfast frittata.

P.E

In P.E, the children will enjoy the following two units: Health Related Fitness and Rhythmic Gymnastics

Important Information

Our weekly homework will continue to be **set on Friday** and **returned on Thursday**. Children get house points for each piece of homework they complete to a good standard and we often award merits for super effort, so please encourage your child to complete their homework on time.

We 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 (other than reading the task to them). Please ensure your child completes their homework and hands it in on time.

Our P.E days this term are **Wednesday afternoons and Thursday mornings**.

Reading

In Key Stage One, we endeavour to change your child's reading book twice a week. Please can we ask that you aim to read your child's scheme books with them at least three times to support with retention, particularly with Phonics. Research suggests that this also strongly improves fluency.

Your child's books will be linked with the children's Phonics knowledge for you to practise at home.

When reading a book three times with your child, please use the following structure:

Read 1: Read to your child

Read 2: Your child reads to you

Read 3: Ask questions about the text

Key Reminders

Children need a named water bottle in school every day.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to approach me.

Kind Regards,

Caroline Matthews