



Year 4 Curriculum Leaflet

Spring 1:

'Saxon Sagas'



English

For our class readers this half term, we are going to read 'The Amazing Story of Adolphus Tips' by Michael Morpurgo and 'The Land of Roar' by Jenny McLachlan.

Reading

Aim: To understand how to apply reading strategies to a range of genres.

For this half term, the children will be continuing to develop reading strategies, learning to apply them to comprehension questions for a range of genres, including fiction, non-fiction and poetry. Finally, we will use our strategies to help our understanding of the 'Jabberwocky' text studied in our English unit.

Please continue to discuss daily, any text your child is reading at home. Useful vocabulary to discuss at home - aim to identify a new word from their reading each week to discuss or learn.

Writing

Aim - To adapt a classic story in order to produce their own booklet and create a group performance poem.

Year 4 will begin the term by using the book 'The Selfish Giant' by Oscar Wilde. They will have the opportunity to give opinions about the story, to write descriptive sentences using noun phrases, as well as using antonyms to create opposites. Following this, we will enjoy the poem called 'Jabberwocky' written by Lewis Carroll. The children will have a go at writing their own nonsense poems using skills such as rhyme and rhythm and including powerful adjectives for effect.

At home, share and discuss a variety of poetry and classic stories you enjoyed from your childhood. Useful vocabulary to discuss at home -antonym, saga, fable.

Maths

Aim - To apply their knowledge of times tables for everyday situations.

We will be continuing our work with multiplication and division. The children will be multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100 and then we will introduce formal written methods for solving calculations. We will then move on to a 2 week topic using our knowledge of length and perimeter to look at rectilinear shapes. Finally, we will begin to look at fractions and mixed numbers.

Please continue to support your child using the Times Tables Rockstars app. Useful vocabulary to discuss at home - different words to mean multiply.

History

Aim - To identify where Saxons fit in to the British history timeline.

This half term our topic is called 'Saxon Sagas'. We will revise the Romans from Year 3 and then move on to study Alfred the Great and how he fits into our history timeline. We will use sources to form an enquiry to decide whether he deserves the title of 'great' or whether he just got lucky!

At home, you could use a task on the homework grid to find out more about the Anglo-Saxons.

Useful vocabulary to discuss at home - artefact, archaeologist.

Science

Aim - To understand how electricity can travel through a circuit to provide power.

In science, we will be finishing our topic on Making New Plants. Then the children will be investigating and creating circuits; looking at which materials are good conductors and insulators of electricity and how this applies to everyday life. The children will look at the patterns in electricity flowing around circuits and have the opportunity to build their own working circuit.

At home, research how electricity will be harnessed in the future. Useful vocabulary to discuss at home - conductor, insulator, circuit.

R.E.

Aim - To explore the concepts of good and evil and how they are expressed through festivals.

In R.E. we will be exploring the concepts of good and evil through the Hindu festival of Holi. The children will apply their ideas to their own lives and the world in general. We will also be using a P4C approach to explore these concepts.

At home, discuss a "big question" such as can something be good for one person but bad for another. Useful vocabulary to discuss at home - consequence.

Art

Aim - To show an understanding of shape, space and form through 3D sculpture.

In art lessons, children will be looking at the artwork of Giacometti and his sculptures of the human figure. They will design and make a wire sculpture of an Anglo-Saxon person or warrior, thinking about form and pose.

At home, explore using different materials to create 3D people- pipe cleaners, coat hangers, chicken wire, natural materials. Consider creating different poses. Useful vocabulary to discuss at home - pose, adapt.

Music

Aim -To use dynamics and tempo for expressive effect in our composing.

This term the children will use the story of Beowulf as a stimulus for composition. We will explore the musical elements of dynamics (volume) and tempo (speed) and consider how these can be used to create effects in our composing.

Alongside our music learning this term, we will be putting together a class playlist of music that

helps us to feel calm. Please listen to a range of music at home and help your child to find a piece that helps them to feel calm which they can share with their class. Useful vocabulary to discuss at home - dynamics and tempo

Computing

Aim - To understand how the internet works and whether it can always be trusted.

In Computing, the children will be learning about the internet and how the networks are connected. We will look at what can be shared on the world wide web and that not everything they see on the internet is true, honest or accurate.

You could discuss with your children how to look out for reliable websites.

P.E.

Aim - To improve technique across the disciplines.

For outdoor PE, we will be playing Hockey. Children will be looking at both sending and receiving the ball and then using these skills in a game situation. Children will also learn the correct technique for shooting, as well as using their invasion games experience to find space to help teammates. For indoor PE, children will be exposed to a variety of balances and skills they can perform on the apparatus, as well as taking spare time to practise their existing gymnastics skills from previous years on the floor mats.

At home watch some hockey matches with your child and discuss skills used. Useful vocabulary to discuss at home - invasion.

P.S.H.E.

Aim-To understand how to set goals to help us achieve our dreams for the future.

During P.S.H.E. lessons we will be thinking about our hopes and dreams. We will discuss how to help ourselves achieve our dreams and how to deal with disappointments if things do not go according to plan.

At home discuss your child's dreams and how we could help to achieve these.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your child's class teacher.

Mrs Driver and Mrs Lobb

UFTON MEETING DATE 15th January 2024 5pm

