

Maths

Maths this year will be taught in mixed age classes, this is usual practice for lots of small schools and we hope the children will benefit from working in larger groups.

All children will be challenged to their abilities whilst remembering that Maths is about mastering fluency and being able to quickly and independent apply number skills to problem solving.

This term will be a focus on multiplication and division and fractions – we will look at formal written methods and we will practice our times tables daily as knowing these are a key element in being able to succeed in these areas.

At the end of year 4 there is a multiplication check using up to 12x tables. There is no pass mark but we aim for children to score 20 and above. We will have lots of opportunities in class to practice these but support at home is always needed. Times tables can be practiced in lots of different ways including songs found on YouTube, games, random questioning, writing out, spotting patterns etc. By the end of year 3 children will need to know 2x,3x,4x,5x,8x,10x times tables.

Sapling Class Spring Term

**We will be inviting you to
in for parent's evening
later this term – dates
to be announced later in
the term.**

**Please check our website
for up-to-date
information on dates.**

Geography

Oaklings will be working together to study Antarctica with a focus on how we can protect it for the future. These resources are provided by 2041 School – Champions of the Antarctica.

Science

Our science topic for the Spring term is magnets and forces. We will compare how things move on different surfaces and notice that some forces need contact between two objects but magnetic forces can act at a distance. We will observe how magnets attract or repel each other and attract some materials and not others. We will also look at comparing and grouping together a variety of everyday materials and identify some magnetic materials.

Writing

In English this term, we will be working on the Talk for Writing subject of 'Overcoming adversity!' We will be using the magical fairytale of The Firework maker's daughter as our model text and then using the stories of Goodnight stories for Rebel girls and boys who dare to be different as our inspiration to create an exciting narrative using our skills with descriptive writing and learning new skills around dialogue. We will also continue to focus on constructing accurate and engaging sentences.

Guided Reading

In this term's guided reading we will be working through a number of texts focusing on the VIPERS skills. We will also have plenty of opportunities to read as a class as we work through The Firework maker's daughter novel. To help with writing it is really important to support with spellings at home. Some families have also found CPG workbooks helpful to practice the grammar elements of writing.

Guided Reading Books

The Firework maker's daughter/Poems to read aloud/Goodnight stories

PE

Tuesdays with Mr Hitchin - dance

Wednesday with Mrs Bartholomew - gymnastics

PSHE

Anti-bullying/Family and Friends/My emotions/Managing change

Music

Wednesdays with Miss Simmons

RE

Islam/Christianity

Computing

Thursdays with Mr Hitchin

Spanish

Thursdays with Mrs Baker

Spanish Se'.... I know how....

Art

Developing shading skills and drawing techniques to create botanical-inspired digital drawings.

Day to Day life in Saplings

- Mrs Hearnden will teach the class on a Monday all day and Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings.
- Miss Oxford will teach Mathematics and RE/PSHE on a Friday morning.
- Across the week we will be supported by Miss Oxford in the morning.
- Our Planning and Preparation time has moved to a Tuesday afternoon. This afternoon will be a PE session with Mr Hitchin followed by Geography also with Mr Hitchin. The two KS2 classes (Saplings and Oaks) will be taught together known as Oaklings.
- On a Monday we will set new spellings and complete a spelling check from the previous weeks list. Children will have an Ed shed log in as well as a paper copy of spellings to learn. We encourage children to learn their spellings in lots of different ways to support with engagement and retaining the spelling patterns. You might want to use scrabble letters, write in flour on a baking tray, use magnets, paint, the list could go on!
- Both PE sessions will be with Oaks and PE kits should be kept in school all week just in case.
- Children are responsible for telling an adult that they need to quiz. Children's reading diaries will be checked every Monday morning to ensure three reads have taken place in the previous week. An adult or child can record readings in their diaries.
- Hearing your child read in class comes in lots of different forms and will not necessarily result in a weekly read of their own reading book with an adult in the class.
- Log ins for Ed Shed (Spelling Shed and Maths Shed access) will be stuck in the front of your child's reading diary.
- To support your children's learning they may have the opportunities in the afternoon to complete small group work with Miss Oxford and Mrs Payne focusing on their maths, writing, reading skills and their emotional wellbeing.

Communication

Mrs Hearnden and Miss Oxford have access to Class Dojo and this will be checked regularly. If you are notifying us about a change of collection at the end of the day or your message is urgent please leave this message with the office as dojo cannot always be checked throughout the day.

We offer an open door approach to communication so please do let us know any worries or concerns you have. We would also love to celebrate in class so please do let us know successes your child has had outside of school.

Don't forget...

- A healthy snack for playtime
- A named drinks bottle to be taken to and from school each day.
- **All jumpers and cardigans named**, we had so many end up in lost property last year 😞
- Reading books and diaries at school every day.
- Pair of old trainers or wellies to be kept at school for accessing the field.