

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 independently apply number skills to problem solving.

This term will be a focus on place value using numbers up to 10,000 along with using equipment and eventually formal written methods for addition and subtraction.

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 Autumn Term

**We will be inviting
you to visit the class
to look at your
child's learning on
Monday 29th
September at 3pm.**

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

History

Our History unit this term is Emperors and Empires. We will be learning all about Ancient Rome and the Roman Invasion of Britain. We will be learning about what everyday life was like in Ancient Rome and Roman Britain, all about Boudicca and Hadrian's Wall and Roman inventions and towns in Britain.

We are hoping to visit Colchester Castle in this term to support our learning and will be in touch with more information in due course.

Science

Our science topic for the first part of the Autumn term is about states of matter. We will observe that materials change state when they are heated or cooled. We will compare and group materials together according to whether they are solids, gases or liquids and we will study a well known scientist in this area. We will then look at magnets and forces in the second part of the term. We will observe how magnets attract and repel some materials and compare how things move on different surfaces. We will also look at magnetic materials and compare and group everyday materials.

Writing

We will begin this half term by looking at simple story structures focusing on using basic skills (full stops and capital letters) and include fronted adverbials and expanding our vocabulary to write a descriptive setting based in Roman Times. In the first half of the term, we will be using our guided reading text Roman Tales to support with our descriptive writing.

After October half term we will be looking at Pompeii and focusing on character descriptions. We will use our talk for writing practice so as there is lots of oral opportunities to story tell and to be immersed in knowing the story well. 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

Autumn 1 – Roman Tales Autumn 2 – Escape to Pompeii

PE

Wednesday with Mrs Bartholomew

Thursday with Mr Hitchin.

PSHE

Beginning and Belonging

Rights, rules and responsibilities

Music

Wednesdays with Miss Simmons

RE

Christianity

Computing

Thursdays with Mr Hitchin

Spanish

Thursdays with Mrs Baker

Introduce yourself

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 DT 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.