



Holdbrook Primary and Nursery School

Year 3 Curriculum Newsletter Spring Term 1 - 2016

Dear Parents / Carers

The curriculum for the Spring term is as follows:

English

During the first half of the spring term in English we will be looking at the book 'Jemmy Button'. The children will explore and discuss how the book is set across two countries, exploring the themes of belonging, similarities and differences. The children will explore poetry; write diary entries, letters and new reports which link to our class text.



These lessons will include the development of grammar, spelling and punctuation skills. The children will also be reading every day in school during the guided reading sessions.

Mathematics

The children will be mastering their understanding of the number system, along with developing their addition and subtraction skills using 2 and 3 digit numbers, using and understanding measures (including use of units of measurement - mm, cm, m, g, kg, ml and l). They will be working on problems involving money, shape & space and time. Children will continue to learn the times tables to support the multiplication and division work. This will support their progression in rapid number recall and calculations.



Topic

For topic this term we are looking at Mechanisms - Gears and Pulleys, (Design and Technology [DT] focus). We will be exploring how different types of mechanisms work, looking at their individual features. We will then apply this knowledge to create our own mechanisms as our final project.

Science

Rocks will be the focus for this half term, we will look at the different types of rocks as well as fossils and how they are formed, and we will also be attempting to make our own rocks and fossils using different materials.

After half term our focus will be light. We will be looking at how light travels and how it affects different material and objects.

This will also feed into our art lessons; drawing sketches show how light casts shadows.



Religious Education

During this term our religious focus will be Christianity. We will be looking at and learning about the events in Jesus' life. We will draw parallels on other religious stories and will particularly be focusing on the story of Jesus' rebirth (Easter).

Personal, Social and Health Education

Children will be focusing on friendship and behaviour this term. We will discuss the importance of building positive relationships with our friends and what makes a good friend. They will also discuss how we behave in the school and class, and reminding what is good behaviour.

Physical Education

In PE the children will continue to improve their skills in throwing, catching, agility and balance through a range of team games and activities. The children will need trainers and if they prefer jogging bottoms instead of shorts for outdoor PE lessons.

After half term the children will also start swimming lessons as one of their PE lessons each week.



In addition to the above, the children will be participating in Spanish lessons.

Homework

Each week the children will get Mathematics and English activities, which reinforces the work done during the week. Homework will now be sent home on **Friday** and needs to be back in school by **Wednesday**. The children will then also get 10 spellings on **Friday** to learn and practice over the weekend for a spelling test on **Monday**.

Home reading is also vital to your child's development and is therefore a daily requirement. Please support your child with this and ask them about the books that they are reading.



At the front of your child's diaries the children have internet passes for Education City and Maths Whizz. Please encourage them to access both of these learning websites.

Any problems or questions about your child's learning please feel free to talk to me after school. We are currently finalising parents evening, please be patient while we sort the fine details, don't worry we haven't forgotten.

Regards
Miss Shaw