



Walnut Class Curriculum Newsletter - Spring 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

Here is an outline of the curriculum that Walnut Class will be covering this term.

English

In English, we will be covering a range of genres. This will involve storytelling and role play, writing myths, studying setting and character descriptions, reports and recounts and writing poems and playscripts. The children will learn to plan, draft and edit their written texts. We will be beginning with the Roman myth and legend of Romulus and Remus.

In spelling, the children will continue to focus on suffixes, prefixes and homophones and learning words from the Year 3/4 list. They will continue to learn to use the dictionary accurately by using the first 3 letters of a word. In grammar and punctuation, the children will review nouns, adjectives, verbs and conjunctions. They will begin to use more adverbs and prepositions to add detail and description to their writing. They will review inverted commas and learn how to use apostrophes for possession. Over the next few weeks, the children will be focusing on developing a consistent joined up script in order to increase their writing fluency. They will learn to correctly use the determiner - a or an.

Weekly guided and whole class reading will cover a range of texts where the children will retrieve information, make predictions and develop their inference skills. They will identify ideas and themes, discuss language and participate in book discussion.

Maths

In maths this term, the children will be extending and developing their understanding of multiplication and division with a focus on simple written methods. The children will work on measurement, in particular length, and how to measure area and perimeter. They will also develop their understanding of fractions and the Year 4s will begin to link fractions to decimals and decimal notation. The children will be developing their mathematical reasoning and problem-solving skills and practising their times tables regularly each week. The children will also reinforce their understanding of Roman Numerals, in connection with their topic work.

Science

This term, the children will be learning about rocks and soils. The children will group rocks according to their properties and identify similarities and differences, identifying natural and man-made rocks. They will learn the differences between a bone and a fossil, and they will explain simply how soil is formed. The children will carry out simple investigations, making and recording observations accurately.

Computing

The children will use the internet to carefully research and find information from databases and websites. They will be developing presentation skills using Powerpoint and Purple Mash, learning how to combine text and graphics to present information. As part of their regular Computing lessons and assemblies, the children will continue to learn about e-safety.

Geography and History

This term our topic is The Romans. The children will learn about the Roman Empire and its impact on Britain. They will research and learn about the Roman invasion of Britain, how The Romans lived and how they left their mark on Britain.

Music

The children will compose a piece of music using percussion instruments in relation to the myth of Romulus and Remus. They will use musical vocabulary to describe the music and use simple notation to record the composition. They will also use percussion instruments to accompany their Roman dance performance.

PE

In PE this term, the children will be developing their outdoor game playing skills through the invasion game of netball. They will also review rugby skills and they will learn that a circuit can be sport-specific in gym-fit circuits. The children will be developing and performing dances using a range of movement patterns in connection with the Roman topic.

Art and DT

In art this term, the children will be looking into art and architecture in the Roman era and this will be used to inspire their art and design work using a variety of different mediums. Inspiration will come from studying buildings such as the Colosseum and mosaics, frescos and sculptures found in Roman buildings.

French

The children will recap on numbers and learn to tell the time in French, playing number games and singing songs. They will learn how to talk about school life in French - favourite subjects, a day at school - and they will make a French board game linked with their Birthdays.

RE

This term, the children will research and study the origin of Buddhism, learning the story of Buddha and his teachings, the morals, the noble truths and the eightfold path. They will learn about karma and meditation and look at Buddhist symbols and the features of a Buddhist temple.

Timetable and other information

PE - Ensure your child has PE kit (including tracksuit bottoms in cold weather) on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Spelling - Test on Friday.

Water Bottles - Please ensure your child has a named water bottle in school every day.

Snacks - Your child is welcome to bring in a healthy snack to have at morning breaktimes.

Homework - This will be set home on a Thursday and will be due in on the following Wednesday.

Reading Records - The children need to bring these in daily.

Ways to support your child's education

Spellings - Practise using the "Look, Cover, Say, Write, Check" strategy. The children can also practise their spellings in their Creative Spelling book.

Reading - Read at least four times a week at home. Share the reading, talking about the book to help with your child's comprehension.

Maths - Help your child practise their times tables - both multiplication and division facts.

Real life maths problem solving: Using money and calculating change; reading weights, capacity and lengths; measuring when cooking; telling the time and reading time tables.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Tsiquaye, Mrs Lavelle, Mrs Cousins and Mrs Marucci