



# Curriculum Newsletter



Spring: Year 6



## Reading

This term we shall be focusing on developing retrieval and inference skills. Children will be reading between the lines and answering questions linked to impressions they have about characters, backing up their answers using evidence from the text. They shall be answering questions using APE (Answer, Prove, Explain). Please listen to your children read regularly. Discuss the meanings of sophisticated language you come across in the text. Ask children to read around the text to clarify the meaning of unfamiliar words.

**Class Reader: The Great Sea Dragon Discovery**

**Author Focus: R L Stine**



## Mathematics

As the term begins, the children will continue to learn about ratio. They will then move on to algebra, where they will learn that a letter can be used to represent a number. They will substitute numbers into algebraic expressions and formulae. They will further their knowledge of decimals, fractions and percentages.

Times tables need to be thoroughly learned so that they can be applied to a range of questions quickly and accurately.

### Key Vocabulary

Ration, algebra, expression, formula, equation, substitution, fraction, decimal, percentage, convert.

## Computing

Children will use the programming language of Python. They will iterate ideas, testing and changing them throughout the unit and explain what their program does. They will use nested loops in their designs and explain what the parts of a loop do as well as altering the house drawing using Python commands.

### Key Vocabulary

Algorithm, Code, Command, Design, Import, Indentation, Input, Instructions, Loop, Output, Patterns, Random, Remix, Repeat, Shape

## Writing

The children will write a discovery narrative based on the expeditions of Charles Darwin. In addition to this, they will create an explanation text on how an animal of their choice has adapted to its environment. The children will use dashes, brackets and semi-colons to punctuate sentences precisely to enhance meaning.

### Vehicle Text

On the Origin of the Species by Sabina Radeva

Darwin: An Exceptional Voyage by Fabien Grolleau and Jeremie Royer



## Science

Our first Science topic of the spring term is Living Things and their Habitats. This unit will allow children to describe how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences, including micro-organisms, plants and animals and enable them to give reasons. Our Second topic is Evolution and Inheritance, where they recognise that living things have changed over time and have adapted to suit their environment.

### Key Vocabulary

Classify, characteristics, taxonomist, evolution, inherit, offspring, adapt, mammal, amphibian, reptile, vary

## Important Dates

SATs week is **week commencing 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024**, with tests on the following dates:

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May:** Grammar, Spelling and Punctuation.

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May:** Reading

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May:** Maths: Arithmetic and Reasoning.

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May:** Maths: Reasoning.

**Writing SATs continue until the end of June.**

Please ensure your child attends school each day during SATs week and has excellent attendance throughout the year.

# Temple of Doom

Adults: Miss King, Mr Fingerneissl, Miss Nicholson, Mrs Johnson, Mrs Mortimer

## History

We envisage that by studying the topic Temple of Doom, the children shall gain an understanding of the historically important Maya Civilisation. Their daily life and celebrations, achievements and beliefs will be explored, using a range of artefacts and sources, so that pupils will have a deeper understanding of their lives and importance in history as well as being able to compare and contrast with their own experiences.

### Key Vocabulary

Sacrifice, Mesoamerica, civilization, astronomy, agriculture, temple, worship, nobles, deities.

## Physical Education

Within Basketball lessons, the children will apply a refined understanding of passing, dribbling and moving to score points against another team. In Dance lessons, the children will be working in small groups (Samba schools) devising their own dances, which will be performed in a carnival performance at the end of the sequence of learning.

### Key Vocabulary



Passing, dribbling, shooting, possession, invasion, attack, defend, endzone, choreography, routine, rhythm, sequence, canon, unison.

## Art & Design

The children will learn to choose a meaningful message to convey through imagery, creating some different composition ideas and abstract art pieces. Children will identify features within paintings of chosen artists and apply these to their own work.

## Design & Technology

Linked to their science knowledge of Electricity, children will design a steady hand game. They will make a working circuit which will fit inside a carefully designed box. Once made, children will evaluate their product.

## To help prepare your child for SATs

- Encourage your child to read for at least 15 minutes daily.
- Continue to practise times tables, including using the Times Tables Rockstars app.
- Ensure your child comes to school every day.
- Attend boosters, which currently take place on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings from 8:00am.
- Attend after school boosters from spring 2- details to follow.

## Religious Education

In this term, children will learn how Christians and Humanists view humanity and how they would act in various situations. They will learn what aspects are similar and which are different. They will reflect on their own views on humanity so that they can articulate their own code of living.

### Key Vocabulary

Behaviour, actions, explanation, code for living, fairness, intentions, villain, righteous, sin

## Music

During the Spring term, learning is focused around one song from Benjamin Britten's Friday Afternoons: A New Year Carol. The children will research Benjamin Britten's life and works. They will apply their skills and knowledge to compose in the style of the focus composer.

### Key Vocabulary

Melody, compose, improvise, cover, pulse, rhythm, pitch.

## French

Children will consolidate their knowledge of noun gender and colours by being able to give and understand descriptions and opinions of their and others clothing.

### Key vocabulary

Vetements, couleurs, j'aime, je deteste, porter

## How you can support at home

There are many ways you can support your child's education at home. Listen to your child read daily for 10 minutes and record in their reading record. Support your child to practise their weekly spellings and timetables/ number bonds. Your child has access to a number of online platforms to support their learning. Please encourage them to access regularly during the week. Log In details can be found inside your child's reading record.

