

Curriculum newsletter for SS, SRJ and RF
Spring 1 2015

Mrs Stacey, Mrs Russell-Jones, Mrs Foley, Mrs
Fannon, Mrs Wainman and Miss Moore

Numeracy

This term will be another busy one in numeracy. We are going to be doing lots of real life numeracy, with work on money and time being a priority. Also on our trip to Bromsgrove, we will be collecting data about the shops and the amenities and using it back in school to produce bar charts and line graphs.

Further to this we will be continuing our focus on tables and hope you will encourage your children with their Totally Tables challenges at home. It is vital the children know their times tables and the divisions that go with each of the tables. So

$$2 \times 8 = 16 \text{ and } 16 \div 8 = 2$$

Thank you to those of you who were able to attend the Calculations Workshop. To those of you who would like the information from that workshop please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Stacey. It will show you the ways we teach the four rules of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division at school to the children in Year 3 and 4.

We will be continuing with numeracy groupings as we feel it is really supporting the children and allowing us to tailor the work for the children. Again if you have any questions about that do not hesitate to contact us.

Special sessions!

SS, SRJ and RF are continuing with some special teaching sessions. This half term Class SS will be learning French with Madame Bond from Catshill Middle School and all of the children will be learning gymnastics skills with a specialist coach from Bromsgrove Gymnastics club. Each class will be developing cricket skills with additional sessions of Kwik Cricket. So that your child can take advantage of all of these opportunities, please ensure PE kits are always in school.

Our topic this half term is URBAN PIONEERS!

Welcome back to the spring term!
Our new topic of **Urban Pioneers** involves looking at the local area in which the children live and includes a trip to Bromsgrove, using local transport. The children will be learning about the history of Catshill so if you have any materials at home related to Catshill in the past we would love to see them!



Literacy



Narrative writing is the focus this half term with our topic which lends itself to some super writing opportunities where the children can apply their vocabulary skills. The children will be developing descriptive writing by looking at settings and characters. We are going to use the Three Little Pigs story as a stimulus and play with elements of the story changing the characters and setting.



Topic

In topic this term we will be exploring a range of geography skills. We will be starting our journey with a trip into Bromsgrove where the children will be surveying land usage, drawing sketch maps and participating in other field work. Back in the classroom we will then be looking deeper into types of features make up an urban landscape. Alongside this we will be drawing more detailed maps of a town and then move onto comparing it to one in another country and exploring the similarities and differences. In art we will be incorporating a range of ICT into our lessons with the use of digital and light graffiti photography. To accompany this we will be creating our own graffiti art in our classrooms and around the school! Our science topic is Light and will involve learning about light and dark, sources of natural and artificial light, and investigations into shadows.

Unlocking the learning at home.... yet again we received some *fabulous examples* of home learning and are very much looking forward to what this next topic brings. **It's very important** you support your child with their learning at home; home learning heroes, times tables and reading at least three times a week.

This term KS2 will be starting a *home reading challenge* whereby the children who read at least three times a week at home and have their diary signed will get a special, surprise afternoon treat at the end of the term.