

### Maths

To support your child with their maths here are some great ideas:

Children must know ALL their tables by the end of Year 4 so any chance to recite them with your child is great. Not just 3x4 but 4x3 and  $12 \div 3 = 4$  and  $12 \div 4 = 3$ . Children learn well to music so a tables CD is an excellent idea, or try and find some songs from the internet on You Tube.

Try adding the numbers up on car registration plates, or multiplying them by two or three. So BL15XYM can be used for  $1+5=6$ ,  $15 \times 2 = 30$ ,  $15 \times 3 = 45$ . Look for numbers all around you and see if they are odd or even. Remember even numbers end in 2,4,6,8, and 0. While odd numbers end in 1,3,5,7, and 9.

Look for shapes in the environment. So windows that are square and road signs that are circular. How many can you spot as you walk around? Talk to your child as you shop. If I buy this tin of beans how much change will I get from £1?

### Special sessions!

PE coaching sessions with Sam continue for all KS2 children on Wednesdays. Swimming sessions at the Dolphin Centre will start for the Year 4 children; if your child is starting swimming this half term you will have received a letter already. Mme Brooker will be teaching French on a Friday morning with Class 3/4 S for this half term.

As always please ensure PE kits are always in school to enable your child to benefit from these sporting

## Our topic this half term is Urban Pioneers

A very warm welcome back to the first half of the autumn term where our learning will be based on our Urban Pioneers topic. This is a super half term full of exciting opportunities for the children. We will be taking the children on a school trip to the Avoncroft Museum of Buildings to look at how housing has changed across time. The children will also be learning about the local area and Catshill in more detail so if you have any materials at home related to this we would love to see them. The Blackwell residential trip is this half term as well which the children who are attending are very excited about.

### English

**How can you help your child in English?**

**Here are some great ideas:**

- We have a reading challenge over a half term where children are expected to read at least 3 times a week at home.
- Talk to your child about the book you are reading, are they enjoying it? Support them to explain what they are enjoying about the book and try to compare books by the same author to explore the writing style of that author
- Focus on word types and ask your child to select the noun, verb, adjective, adverb and conjunction in the sentence you have just read. This will reinforce the grammar learning at school.
- Talk to your child about what type of book they are reading. For example, is it a fiction book or a non-fiction book? Explore the contents page and index for non-fiction and characters and paragraphs and chapters for fiction books.

### Topic

**Our Science learning will be based around the topic of Light where the children will be learning how shadows are formed. They will also be investigating how shadows change length and size. In art the children will be using a graffiti style of writing to sketch their own names. If you see any graffiti in the outside environment we would appreciate any photographs you could take; this helps to make the children's learning real.**

**In Geography the learning will be based on map skills and field work using large scale maps and the local environment.**

**Unlocking the learning at home....** we are looking forward to receiving some fantastic examples of home learning. Fabulous examples of home learning are always on display in the main entrance and for any of the children who need resources to complete their home learning we can help out with supporting this. Please ask your child's class teacher if you would like support with ideas or resources for home learning; we believe it is very important that every child has the opportunity to engage with learning at home.

**KEY STAGE 2 Home Learning Projects**

3/4 S/F/J

The children in Key Stage two will be taking part in ‘Creative Homework Projects’ that we would like them to complete over the coming weeks. The project for this half term is “Urban Pioneers”

We look forward to seeing the results and would like all the children to bring their completed projects into school the week beginning Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2016 so that they can share and celebrate each other’s talents before the end of term. We would ask that this project reflects six weeks’ worth of work, and demonstrates the children’s own work, although we really appreciate your support in helping them complete their homework. The children should complete at least one piece of work, but may complete more if they would like. If school can help with resourcing the project please let us know.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Stacey and Ms Moore

Miss Mayo-Braden and Mrs Fannon

Mrs Jones, Mrs Wainman, Mrs Fay and Mrs Thomas

<p><b><u>Graffiti catchers</u></b></p> <p>Why not take your cameras out and about and photograph some examples of graffiti. You could then try and produce your own, although remember to do it on paper at home and not the walls!</p>	<p><b><u>Structure studies</u></b></p> <p>Look at structures in your nearest city or town such as bridges, towers or tunnels. What is the oldest structure? What is the newest? Perhaps you could draw or design one of your own?</p>	<p><b><u>Gargoyle spotting</u></b></p> <p>Go gargoyle spotting! Look up in church yards and see if you are watched by a stone gargoyle. Take photographs and then try and replicate a 3D replica of the strange creatures at home using modelling materials.</p>
<p><b><u>River run</u></b></p> <p>Follow the path of a river through a town. The river is often the starting point of the building of a city. Look for early bridges- maybe the name of the city includes the name of the river, like Stratford upon Avon.</p>	<p><b><u>City art</u></b></p> <p>Upload an image of a prominent city into a drawing package on your computer. Crop the image so only half of the image remains and use your drawing skills to recreate the other half of the picture adding colour and tone.</p>	<p><b><u>Walking tours</u></b></p> <p>With an adult, go on a walking tour of the city, take photographs of favourite buildings and places. Describe your route, using a map, to another person so they could take the same route.</p>
<p><b><u>Old and new</u></b></p> <p>Compare old and new. Take photographs or draw an old and a new building in your town or street. Annotate the pictures to show features that have changed in the design of houses and buildings.</p>	<p><b><u>Where in the World?</u></b></p> <p>If you could live anywhere in the World where would it be? Research the place and produce a fact file on it. What is the capital? Why would you like to live there? What are the attractions of that city?</p>	<p><b><u>Entertaining visitors</u></b></p> <p>Imagine you have to entertain a visitor from another country. You want to impress them with your home town. Where would you take them for a day trip? Plan an itinerary showing them the best of your local</p>