

Curriculum newsletter for 3/4J, 3/4S and 3/4MB

Summer 1 2017

Mrs Jones, Mrs Stacey, Miss Mayo-Braiden, Ms Moore, Mrs Fannon and Mrs Lawrence

Maths

To support your child with their maths here are some helpful hints:

The children need to have good mental skills so quick fire questions can always be a way to help your child. Perhaps while on a long car journey or just when you get the usual moan of "I'm bored..." These can be times tables as these remain a focus or perhaps addition and subtraction what is $23+6$, or $32-7$?

The children need to be able to add, subtract, multiply and divide using standard methods and we are continuing to work with them on these methods using them to solve real life word problems. Copies of the maths workshop handouts can still be obtained by seeing Mrs Stacey.

Further to this, take every opportunity to involve your child in real-life maths such as going to the shop and buying things. Ask them what have I spent? How much change should I get? If it is bedtime in one hour what time is bedtime? It all helps.

Special sessions!

PE coaching sessions with Sam now take place for all KS2 children on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Swimming sessions at the Dolphin Centre will resume for the final group of Year 4 children. Mme Brooker will be teaching French on a Friday morning with Class 3/4 MB for the next half term with 3/4 J in summer 2.

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

Our topic this half term is **PREDATOR**

Welcome to our summer term of learning in KS2 where our new topic is Predator, a very exciting topic focusing on animals that predate such as tigers. We will be having a visit from one of the falconers from the Falconry Centre at Hagley who will be showing a range of birds of prey. We will be using a beautifully written and illustrated text by Jackie Morris for our writing; we know that the children will be very engaged by this.

English

How can you help your child in English?

Here are some great ideas:

- We are closely monitoring the children's reading and those that achieve our expectation of reading at three times a week, at home, will earn extra house points
- Spend time with child enjoying and talking to them about the book they 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. If they are Year 4, look for sentences starting with a fronted adverbial with them
- 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 topic for next half-term is Predator which will have a focus on Science, Geography and DT within topic work. Learning will include

- In Science, our topic is living Things and their Habitats. The children will be learning about food chains related to animals, how to group and classify animals and looking for living things in the outdoor learning environment.
- In Geography we will be learning about biomes and vegetation belts. We will link this to our writing by exploring which habitats predators live in. We will also look at the plants that grow in specific areas. After carrying out our research, we will write a non-chronological report using headings and sub-headings.

Unlocking the learning at home....as always we have received some super examples of home learning which are always on display in the main entrance. Please remember that if your child is unsure of their home learning then we can help with resources to complete their home learning, or discuss ideas with them. Please just ask one of us for support. We believe it is very important that every child has the opportunity to engage with learning at home and will support however we can with this.