

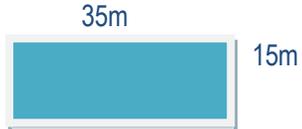
Curriculum newsletter for SS, SRJ and RF
Summer 1 2015

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

Numeracy

The summer term in numeracy will be yet another busy one; firstly we will be continuing to work on tables with the children. Then our focus will be on using and applying the skills we have learnt. By this we mean that once children have the skills of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division how many different ways can they make a number such as 42 using these skills? So, for example, 42 can be made by $40+2$ or $50-8$ or 7×6 or $84 \div 2$

We will be looking at other different problem solving opportunities as we continue to develop our knowledge of shapes, data handling and measures. For example if you are going to build a garden and you have 100m of fencing how many different rectangular fields can you make?



So $35m + 35m + 15m + 15m = 100m$

To help your child with their numeracy at home you can continue to work on their tables, including the division, and their mental skills of adding and subtracting. Quick fire mental skills are essential for children to become competent mathematicians.

Special sessions!

This half term sees SRJ continuing with French lessons taught by Madame Bond from Catshill Middle School. All three classes will benefit from athletics sessions by a coach from South Bromsgrove High School which will culminate in an athletics tournament. More details about this will follow!

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 what promises to be an exciting summer term where we have many engaging learning activities planned! **Predator** has already excited the children as we have launched learning with a fantastic trip to the West Midlands Safari Park. We also held a Catshill Predator Museum where the children had the opportunity to research and learn about predators and their habitats via a variety of media including information books, images and video footage.

Literacy

Narrative writing will be a big focus this half term so we will be using a range of quality texts to support our teaching. The texts include The Snow Leopard by Jackie Morris and Lord of the Forest by Caroline Pitcher. The rich vocabulary and images will be a fantastic stimulus for the childrens' writing. Generating and selecting vocabulary will be the start of the writing focus followed by writing quality sentences using a range of vocabulary, painting a picture through their language choices. The writing will then flow into paragraph structure. The Lord of the Forest text will be the basis for the children writing a story about their own predator later this half term. Speaking and listening skills are always a focus for us and the children will have the opportunity to present their opinions about zoos and safari parks in a debate we are planning following our visit to the West Midlands Safari Park.

Topic

Following our Predator Museum activity the children will be producing some creative artwork using mind maps and DT will involve making some fabulous 3D tigers! To make these amazing tiger models the children will be using a wide range of materials, some of which we would love you to support with, so in anticipation we will be sending a list of resources home with the children.

Science features heavily in this topic where learning includes predator prey relationships and their associated food chains, plants (including the Preying Mantis!), and skeletons and muscles. We are sure the children will enjoy drawing around each other and labelling their bones! We are also hoping to enhance the childrens' learning by having a visit from a Falconer!

The topic of Christianity continues in RE and Geography lessons will use ICT skills to identify habitats of some of the predators we are learning about.

Unlocking the learning at home....as always we have received some fantastic examples of home learning. To support any children who find it more challenging to achieve this Mrs Stacey runs a lunchtime club to start the children off with ideas they can achieve at home. We believe it is very important that every child has the opportunity to engage with learning at home. Other important learning at home includes totally tables and reading at home. To achieve the half term reading challenge expectation reward we expect all children to read at home at least three times a week. The successful reading challenge children have enjoyed a film afternoon at the end of term as their reading reward.