

English – Writing and Oral Development

After the holidays the children will share their adventures, demonstrating their speaking and listening skills. Then they will complete a written recount of their break.

We will continue to encourage your child to discuss simple questions which supports development of reasoning.

Using Pie Corbett's 'Talk for Writing' programme the children will create an action story which follows a character on a journey.

During our English lessons children will learn different grammar skills and word choices to apply within writing.

In Year 2 we are continuing with our transition from phonics by following the same format, using the ELS spelling programme. This half term we will look at applying suffixes -ing and -ed and rules for this. They will learn homophones and apostrophes for possession and contraction.

The children in both year groups practise spellings daily in the classroom. For year 2 children these relate to the spelling programme and in year 1 children practise harder to read and spell or commonly used words.



Wider Curriculum

As artists the children will look at Henri Matisse and think about patterns. They will create repeating patterns and print on different materials. This will link to DT as they create Mexican inspired bunting, practising sewing skills.

Further DT work will focus on food and nutrition, thinking about where different foods come from and the importance to health for a varied diet. This builds on our science work from last half term – how to keep healthy. Children will prepare some fruit and vegetables and create Mexican inspired dishes of salsa and guacamole.

As musicians the children will learn a bossa nova inspired song, a mixture of styles. They will listen to and reflect on pieces of music some with similar styles and some completely different.

As geographers the children will learn about the non-European country of Mexico and compare to the UK.

In RE we will look at why religious groups feel it is important to belong to a church or mosque.

In PSHE we will think about our British values and the importance of medicine and safe usage. We will discuss things which should and shouldn't go on or in our bodies.

Maths

Children will continue to apply number operations in their weekly 'Big Maths' skills sheet, in order to build quick recall of addition and year 2 multiplication equations.

Children will learn measuring of length and height, before further work with number and place value. Year 2 will look at more formal methods of column addition.

We will look at a range of 2D & 3D shapes, their properties and where we can see them.

We will complete the half term looking at fractions including $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ of shapes, objects and numbers for year 1. Children in year 2 will consolidate $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ and learn about $\frac{1}{3}$. Then moving on to more than one part of a fraction and the link of $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{2}{4}$.

Physical

We will continue our gymnastics work creating small sequences with balances, jumps and rolls. We will apply balance and jumping skills on and off the apparatus. We will progress into dance skills, listening to music and creating, following and performing simple routines. We will encourage the children to practise their 'It's Catching' challenge, throwing and catching a tennis ball.

Donaldson Class: Years 1 & 2 Off we Go to Mexico!

Reading

We continue to see the development of early reading as our number one priority and encourage reading within the classroom every day, such as in daily phonics and spelling sessions, as well as in maths, reading lessons and wider curriculum subjects. ***It would greatly benefit your child if you could continue this support at home and listen to your child at least 4 times a week. This allows them to move up the class ladder and contribute to Donaldson trying to win the weekly reading trophy.***

Each week the children will take part in small group reading sessions to support fluency skills and modelling by the adult. Year 2 will complete individual comprehensions based on a book they have read. Several afternoons each week we work as a whole class in reading lessons which allow for reading and development of comprehensive skills through class discussion.

We will continue with 'The Owl Who was Afraid of the Dark' and finish the term with some non-fiction work.

The children will continue to have the opportunity to choose a book to 'Share at Home' with you, alongside their school reading book.

Our end of day stories are enjoyed by all, but the favourite story time is a visit from a Surprise Storyteller.

Thank you to all our volunteers.