

The Wizard of Oz

Dear Parents/carers,

I am extremely excited about our theme for the Spring Term which will be 'The Wizard of Oz' the children will be investigating changes in climate patterns and unusual weather phenomena. We will also be considering strange and uncharted realms and explore the individualities of the characters from L. Frank Baum's classic tale.

Homework will continue be set weekly on Thursdays and will be due in the following Wednesday.

Main Activities and outcomes	How can you help at home/ useful info and support
<p>English - In English the children will be learning about fables, stories with fantasy settings and explanation texts. We will be focusing on the original L. Frank Baum story of The Wizard of Oz as well as non-fiction texts linked to our learning in science and geography. We will continue to focus on the Year 4 spelling, punctuation and grammar expectations.</p>	<p>Sharing and enjoying reading with your child, whether they read to you or are read to would help them through all aspects of their learning. Support your child with regular spelling games and activities to help them identify patterns and common spellings.</p>
<p>Maths - In maths during the Spring Term, the children will be developing their mathematical skills. Continuing to develop their understanding of formal methods.</p>	<p>The children need to develop the fluency of the mathematical skills they are using. You can support this by asking basic maths facts such as number bonds and times tables and see if they can increase the speed of recall each time.</p>
<p>Science - We will be investigating changes of state and classification of solids, liquids and gasses, including reversible and irreversible changes. As part of our topic the children will also be learning about the weather and how and where unusual phenomena take place.</p>	<p>Lots of changes of state happen when cooking or cooling food, this is a perfect time to discuss reversible and irreversible changes such as cooling and melting chocolate, or burning toast. Keep a log of the weather and keep track of the changes that take place through winter and into spring.</p>
<p>History - We will be briefly exploring the lives of Van Gough and Turner while using a few of their paintings as inspiration for our art work.</p>	<p>You could find other examples of their works of art and try to create similar projects in the same style.</p>
<p>Computing - We will be using the internet to search for facts related to our topic, developing the skills to filter useful sites. We will also be creating and using databases to store and sort information.</p>	<p>At home, you and your children could use internet searches to support homework tasks. Help develop your child's awareness of internet safety by reinforcing the messages</p>

	about not sharing personal information and images.
<p>PE - In the first part of the term we will be learning about the effects of exercise on our bodies and minds and try to improve our fitness levels each week through circuit training.</p> <p>During the second part of the term we will be developing balance and movement through gymnastics.</p>	<p>You could encourage your children to join sports clubs either within or outside the school to support their Physical education and development and share their successes with their friends.</p> <p>It is important we encourage the importance of exercise and physical fitness to lead healthy lifestyles from a young age.</p>
<p>Art/DT - In Art we will be learning about Van Gough and Turner and how they represented different weather within their art work.</p> <p>We will also be making weather detecting instruments in DT and use them to support our learning and Science and Geography.</p>	<p>At home, your children could explore using different media such as paint, chalk and collage to represent the weather or seasons.</p> <p>Your child could also create models from recycling and use these to collect rain or show wind direction.</p>

Please come and see me with any concerns, information and questions you may have. You can contact me briefly before and after school, as well as through the office. I look forward to working with you to develop your child's learning and supporting them through the rest of year 4.

Mrs Barlow, Miss Cooper, Miss Peck and Miss Brookes

