

The Big Debate: What we have achieved in this century is more significant than the past.

What will the children be learning?

This half term we will be travelling back in time to discover what life was like in the Stone, Bronze and Iron Age. Our trip to Butser Ancient Farm will immerse us in day-to-day activities that would enable people to live, have shelter and enjoy life. After this we will explore a range of artifacts and sources of information to discover how we know, what we know about this ancient time. Music will also take us back to a different time period as we develop our singing techniques through Viking songs.

Our science lessons will have us explore forces and magnets as we discover friction whilst Computing will bring us right into 2023 as we tackle coding through a software called Scratch. Design technology (DT) will see us planning and creating our own pneumatic toys. In Tuesday's PE lessons we will be learning country line dancing before creating our own dances with a superhero theme. Whereas on Fridays we will be building on our previously learnt ball skills as we learn to play dodgeball. Valuing difference will be the focus for our PSHE unit of work, looking at celebrating differences, showing respect and tolerance for others which links nicely with our Hope and Optimism focus for Stormbreak sessions.

Soon, we will begin rehearsing for the much-anticipated Christmas play! Without giving too much away, our theme 'Christmas Around the World' will be packed full of Christmas spirit and song. We very much look forward to preparing this for all to enjoy.

English

In English we will be exploring non-fiction texts. We will be looking at the different animals that were around in the past and designing our own Stone Age animals. From this we will create an information text that explains how our animal lived, what it ate and why it became extinct. On the run up to Christmas we will be thinking about the Elves and the Shoemaker and the importance of giving rather than just receiving at this festive time. The children will be writing their own stories in this style. We will also be working on our spelling and reading comprehension skills through daily practice.

Maths

This half term we will be developing our understanding of multiplication and division. This will ensure the children understand the concept as well as the rote learning for fluency through Times Table Rockstars.

After this we will be exploring the world of fractions including: identifying fractions of shapes, finding fractions of amounts and solving fraction problems. Throughout we will be practising number bonds, times tables and telling the time weekly to embed their skills and understanding.

How to help at home

Children will be given two homework booklets. Please complete these weekly and submit a photograph of the logged information each week onto Google Classroom.

Children will receive house points for their homework efforts.

Spelling

Weekly spellings are set in line with our spelling scheme. We will practise the relevant spelling rules in class each week but further practice at home is key to embedding knowledge. The children can do this using the spelling log in the home work booklet or through their weekly assignment on Spelling Shed.

Also on Spelling Shed is a second assignment that focused on common exception words. These spelling lists are bespoke to each pupil and will be regularly updated throughout the year. A paper copy of these will be sent home regularly for those that wish to practise in different ways.

Reading

Many pupils are becoming confident readers and will enjoy reading to themselves however, regular practice reading aloud is crucial to further reading development. Please read with your child regularly (we recommend 5 times a week) as well as having conversations about what they have read to develop verbal comprehension skills.

Maths

Our Maths homework consists of two parts. The first is the weekly homework booklet that needs to be completed and marked before uploading. As well as the well beloved TTRockstars for further times table practice.

Other information

PE: Our weekly PE sessions are on Tuesdays and Fridays. PE kits are to be worn to school, ensuring that hair is tied back and earrings removed.

Library and book band books: Pupils have access to the school library daily at break time but we will also go as a class on Tuesday where children will be able to change their library book. Many children will be assigned a book band level to support their independent reading journey. These can be changed on Monday and Thursday mornings with Mrs Cochrane. If the pupil is a 'free reader' they will be able to choose a second book from the school library that can be changed as often as they choose.

Waterbottles: Waterbottles are permitted in the classroom and are kept at the front of the room for children to access as they need them. We expect these to be filled with water but other drinks can be drunk at lunchtime as part of their packed lunch.

