

Spring Curriculum Newsletter

Swallows 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

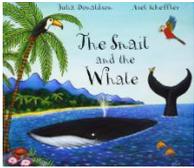
Firstly, we would like to thank you for the lovely gifts we received from you.

We hope you that you have had an enjoyable and relaxing break over Christmas and New Years with your family.

Below is an outline of the topics, skills and concepts that we will cover in the Spring Term. We already know the interest you take in your child's work so please use this as a guide when discussing with your child their learning and day-to-day experiences at school and allow them the opportunity to teach you about what they have been learning!

Along with home reading, the children will be given a weekly spelling list to practise at home as part of our Homework this term. Further information will be sent home in a letter within the next week.

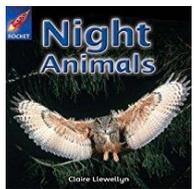
English



In Spring Term 1, our English lessons will be based around the picture book 'The Snail and the Whale' by Julia Donaldson.

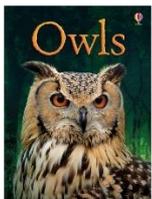
The overall aims of this teaching sequence include :

- To explore, interpret and respond to a picture book through speaking, drama, drawing and writing
- To explore the structure of a narrative text including setting, plot and characters
- To broaden children's understanding and use of appropriate vocabulary
- To write short recounts from fictional personal experiences
- To sequence events to write a short narrative based on a known model



In Spring Term 2 we will be reading and responding to two humorous poems that focus on rhyming couplets and alliteration. We will have the opportunity to recite and perform a poem in groups, and produce our own poems using a framework.

We will also have a focus on Informational texts using the book, 'Night Animals' by Claire Llewellyn and 'Owls' by Emily Bone. Children will discuss the features and purposes of non-fiction texts, create their own labels and captions for a nocturnal animal, pose and write questions and work in small groups to give a short oral presentation to the class about a nocturnal animal. Children will read non-fiction texts to find information and produce their own non-fiction booklet about owls.



In Phonics, children will continue their daily 'Letters and Sounds' program. While continuing to revise all the sounds that they have learnt so far, they will also be introduced to alternative ways of spelling a sound (eg. **pie**, **night**, **like**) as well as the idea that the same letter or group of letters can make alternative sounds (for instance the 'a' in bath, acorn, cat, what). There will be a strong emphasis on spelling in Phonics where children can investigate common spelling rules and 'best bets' on which way to spell a word. They will build on their sight recognition of commonly used words and 'tricky' words as well as how to spell these words. Starting this term, we ask that you support your child's learning with spelling by helping them practice their list of spelling words that will sent home and tested on weekly.

Handwriting continues to be a big focus with correct posture, pencil grip and letter and numeral formation being reinforced constantly as well as more formal lessons. Children will be taught to join their letters.

Children will be introduced to the writing process of simple editing of their own work. They will develop their sentence structure by looking at using joining words (such as 'and', 'so',

	<p>'but', 'because'). Using question marks, exclamation marks and suffixes (-ing, -er, -est, -ed) as well as understanding what a verb and an adjective is will also be a focus.</p>
<p>Maths</p>	<p>In Maths we will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revising pairs to 5,6,7,8,9 and 10, as well as double number facts to 10 and using these facts to help us mentally calculate addition and subtraction problems • Learning to read, write, count and make 2 digit numbers and understand them as some 10s and 1s. • Learning our number bonds to 20 • Spotting number patterns including odd and even numbers • Using number lines or 100 squares to say the number 1 more/less, 2 more/less and 10 more/less than any given number to 100 • Skip counting in 2s, 5s and 10s including counting on or back in 10s from any given number, and beginning to use the terminology 'lots of' or 'groups of' such as '2 lots of 5' • Estimating a collection of objects (up to 100) and counting by grouping them into 5s or 10s • Adding a 1 digit number to a 2 digit number by using strategies such as counting on from the biggest number • Naming, recognising and sorting 3D shapes according to their properties using Venn Diagrams and Carroll Diagrams • Naming and ordering the days of the week, months of the year and the seasons • Using the terminology of 'week', 'day' and 'hour' when understanding the measurement of time, as well as telling the time (o'clock and half past) on analogue and digital clocks • Measuring length using non-standard units (such as blocks or hand spans) and by using rulers • Finding fractions of shapes ($\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$) and beginning to recognise equivalences of fractions such as $\frac{1}{2}$ equals the same as $\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4}$
<p>IPC- International Primary Connection</p>	<p>IPC is a thematic approach to teaching the different subject areas such as Geography, Art, Science, History, Design and Technology, Society.</p> <p>In Spring Term 1 we will be exploring the topic 'Sensational' which focuses on 'The senses'.</p> <p>In Art, we'll be finding out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About different artists and how their work appeals to our senses • How colour, pattern and shapes can be used to appeal to our senses • How we can create our own art to show what we have learnt about the senses <p>In Science, we'll be finding out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About our senses and how we use them • What happens when we are deprived of our senses • How sound travels and how our senses of taste and smell are connected • About the sensory qualities of different materials <p>In Technology, we'll be finding out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to make a fruit salad by exploring taste, colour and texture • About optical illusions and how we can fool the senses <p>In International, we'll be finding out:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How we experience and remember places through our sense of smell, taste, touch, hearing and sight <p>In Spring Term 2, we will cover the topic 'What's it Made of?' focuses on grouping and classifying materials. We will be learning what materials different objects are made of and why we use those materials based on their properties and the purpose of the object. In Science, we'll be finding out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What objects are made of • How we use different materials • How to test materials • How materials are the same or different • How we can group materials • How to choose materials for specific uses • Where materials come from
Science	Science concepts and skills are generally covered within the IPC topic. However, throughout the year we discuss the concepts of 'Weather' and 'Seasons' as well as have the opportunity to use investigative skills such as questioning, making and sharing observations about natural events and occurrences, as well as planning and conducting simple investigations.
ICT	We are using the computing scheme of work from 'Purple Mash'. Our first scheme of work is on online safety and familiarising the children with 'Purple Mash'. The children will also continue work on an introduction to 'coding'.
Music	On Thursday mornings we receive a music lesson with Mrs Francis as well as join in with a whole school Singing Assembly.
RE	In Religious Education, we look at the religion 'Christianity'. Some of the questions and ideas that we discuss and explore are: -What do Christians believe about God? - Who is Jesus? -Why is prayer and worship important to Christians and where do Christians go to worship? - What is the Holy book that Christians follow? - What are some of the stories that Jesus told and what did they mean?
PE	Children will have Gymnastics on a Tuesday morning and PE on a Friday morning. In PE we will continue to participate in games and activities where we can build on our fundamental movement skills including jumping for height, line or beam balance, skipping, galloping, overarm throw, catching a large ball and chest pass.
PSHE	Our School Values are 'Sharing' and 'Cooperation' which we reflect on throughout the term and the year. We discuss some basic ways to keep healthy such as basic hygiene principles, exercising and eating healthy. We discuss setting simple personal goals. We discuss the theme 'Daring to be Different' where we talk about our likes and dislikes and respecting differences between others. We talk about compliments and 'put downs' and discuss when and how we can stand up for ourselves.

We would also appreciate any voluntary contributions of tissues and baby wipes to build our supplies to last us the year.

If at any stage you have any further queries or would like a meeting with me about your child please feel free to contact me to arrange a suitable time.

Kind regards,

Michelle Clow (Classroom Teacher) and Mrs Roberts (Teaching Assistant)

8/01/2017