

PE

Ball skills

We will be developing our hand-eye coordination by playing lots of games involving throwing, catching, rackets and balls. We will continue to have PE with Mr Butler every Monday and Wednesday.

Computing

We will be learning to program Bee-bots (small robots that follow a series of directional commands) to move around maps, avoid obstacles and reach a given position in the classroom.

This half-term, we'll be learning about...

FIRE! FIRE!

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Science

Healthy living

We will be looking at how we can keep ourselves healthy. We will be looking at different food groups we should include in a balanced diet, and investigating how exercise can keep us strong. We will also be looking at the human body and discovering how different parts of the body work and why they are important to us.

The Arts

Linked to our history topic and our visit to Stevenage Fire Station, we will be building model fire engines, exploring different ways to build solid structures and learning how to use axles to connect wheels and allow them to turn. Over the next few weeks we will also be rehearsing our Christmas show, combining some fantastic singing, dancing and acting.

Maths

Our maths for the half-term will focus on learning our number bonds to 10, recognising all the different pairs of numbers we can add together to make 10. To help us find and learn these facts, we will be learning to use part-part-whole models, tens frames and bead strings to represent calculations in different ways. We will also begin to record these facts as number sentences. Once we have identified and learnt our bonds to ten, we will then use these skills to solve simple problems linked to our topic and learning in other areas. We will also continue to work on splitting numbers between 10 and 20 into '10 and some more', as well as recognising the difference between odd and even numbers.

Humanities

History

We will continue to learn about the Great Fire of London. We will find out what it was like to live through the fire by reading diary entries. We will also discover how the City of London fought the fire and the way that the London Fire Brigade has changed over the last 300 years - which should help us to think of lots of questions to ask when we get to interview real-life firefighters later in the term.

RE

Later in the term we will be exploring the story of the birth of Jesus in RE and thinking about the way that different families celebrate at this time of year, which will link-in with our end-of-term performance.

English

We will begin the new half-term by exploring instructions. We will learn about the way that these texts are organised, using 'you will need' lists, numbered steps and time order, using a recipe for Gruffalo Crumble as our inspiration. We will then write our own recipes for imaginary foods.

After that, we will focus on fairy stories, thinking about the way that different characters feel and the way in which they are described. This will lead to us writing our versions of stories that we know well.

Throughout the term, we will continue to develop our spelling and phonics every day in our Read Write Inc sessions.



PE

Keeping fit, happy and healthy is always important. There are links to lots of great resources and workouts to help everyone in the family get active at www.sportengland.org/jointhemovement

Computing

- BBC Bitesize has some great learning resources at www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z3tbwmn/ where you can learn more about coding and begin to create simple programs.

Ideas for supporting learning at home:

Science

- Do a little bit of exercise together and talk about the effect it has on your body - can you feel your heart beating a little faster? Can you feel which parts of your body are getting tired or sweaty? Help your child to understand that these are good things (so long as you don't overdo it) and are a sign that your body is working hard.

The Arts

We're building model fire engines in class, so why not have a go at home as well? You could build something big out of cardboard boxes, something smaller from card and pipe cleaners or something with working wheels from Lego. Encourage your child to make their own decisions about which materials to use and how to join them together.

Maths

- We've been practicing our counting a lot in class, so building on this at home would be a huge help - you could count houses on the way to school, footsteps on the way to bed, shoes in the house, players on the team, objects in the shopping trolley, claps, nods... Anything and everything you can think of!
- Practice writing numbers in sand, salt or water, or try making numbers out of groups of pebbles.
- Count down days until Christmas or the holidays - we've just opened door number 5 on the advent calendar, so how many chocolates are left? How many sleeps are there until the Christmas holidays?

Humanities

- Our history topic this term is the Great Fire of London, which provides lots of opportunities for learning beyond the classroom - try investigating the history, building models, drawing, painting pictures or reading about the lives of people who lived through it. There are loads of resources available through the Museum of London site at www.londonmuseum.org.uk/.
- There are also lots of video clips, games and resources on the BBC Bitesize website at www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zdyhn9q.
- In RE, we will be learning about the Christmas story, so as you start getting the decorations out and thinking about presents, talk together about the stories behind our traditions.

English

- Constant practice of reading - and discussion of what's been read - is just about the most valuable thing you can do at home. Our aim is to turn all our children into fluent readers, so they should be able to read the books they're bringing home with speed, accuracy and confidence.
- We continue to use the Read Write Inc scheme for our daily phonics sessions, and there's guidance on supporting this at home available at: www.ruthmiskin.com/en/find-out-more/parents/
- You can also find advice on supporting spelling at: www.bedwell.herts.sch.uk/learning/spelling_strategies.pdf



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