



What we will be learning this half term:

READING	How to help at home
<p>Reading Comprehension This half-term, children will continue to read fiction texts as well as non-fiction texts / information books. They will identify themes and conventions in a wide range of books. Children will increase their familiarity with a wide range of books, including stories, play scripts and will retell some of these orally or in a written form.</p> <p>Pupils will discuss words and phrases that capture the reader's interest and imagination. They will look at how language, structure, and presentation contribute to meaning.</p>	<p>Ask your child about the books they are reading. Use question words when discussing books; who, what, why, where, when how.</p> <p>Listen to your child read <u>daily</u> and encourage them to use expression, tone and intonation when doing so.</p> <p>Ensure your child regularly logs in to Reading Eggspress at home.</p>
WRITING	How to help at home
<p>This half-term, pupils will study "Beowulf" by Michael Morpurgo. They will look at character description and description of different settings. Children will establish some viewpoint as they will write an informal letter as the main character.</p> <p>Pupils will also carry on looking at how to extend and up-level their sentences by using a range of grammatical features. E.g: adverbial openers, connectives, synonyms, high level punctuation (such as brackets, ellipses, colons, semi colons), etc.</p>	<p>Give your children opportunities to read some formal letters (e.g. job application, letter of complaint, invitation letter) and playscripts identifying the key features (e. g. creating characters, settings, a plot, how to move the story forward, etc).</p> <p>Encourage them to practise their handwriting, as well to increase the legibility and quality of their handwriting in order for children to be ready to use a handwriting pen.</p>
MATHEMATICS	How to help at home
<p>This half term we will continue to practise mental methods with increasingly large numbers to aid fluency adding and subtracting numbers with up to 4 digits using the formal written method of columnar addition where appropriate. We will estimate and use inverse operations to check answers to a calculation. We will be focusing on rapid and accurate recall of all tables up to 12 in readiness for the national test the year 4 children will be taking in June. We will practise solving two-step problems using all + - x and ÷ in contexts, deciding which operations and methods to use and why. Pupils will practise multiplying three-digit numbers by a one-digit number using formal written layout. Followed by learning to solve problems involving multiplying and adding, including using the distributive law to multiply two-digit numbers by one digit,</p> <p>We will continue to learn about data to interpret and present discrete and continuous data using appropriate graphical methods, including bar charts and time graphs. The children will work on measuring and calculating the perimeter of a rectilinear figure (including squares) in centimetres and metres. Likewise they will work to find the area of rectilinear shapes by counting squares.</p>	<p>Practice times tables regularly with your child using the available software called maths frame as this is something they are familiar with.</p> <p>Ask them to tell and show you what they have learnt daily.</p> <p>Use their Timetable Rock Star log in to practise their tables. Also use online maths site maths frame.</p>

SCIENCE	How to help at home
<p><i>In Science, we will continue our topic about sound. The children will find out how the length, thickness and tightness of a string affects its pitch and how sounds can be made by air vibrating</i></p> <p><i>They will explore and identify the way sound is made through vibration in a range of different musical instruments from around the world. We will also look at sound insulation finding out that some materials are effective in preventing vibrations from sound sources reaching the ear. The children will plan and conduct an investigation into which material best reduces the sounds we hear.</i></p> <p><i>Finally, linked to design technology, the children will make and play their own instruments by using what they have found out about pitch and volume. Finally they will evaluate their products against their own design criteria and consider how to improve their work.</i></p> <p><i>We will be visiting the Natural History Museum in Tring, to take our learning about science outside the classroom.</i></p>	<p><i>Ask your child what they have been learning. Allow them to research on line to further their knowledge especially about how sound insulation is important and what materials are good at insulating us from sounds.</i></p>
COMPUTING	How to help at home
<p><i>This half term pupils will be furthering their understanding and use of Espresso Coding, learning about variables, repetition and loops to do things over and over again.</i></p> <p><i>Children will understand that computers use variables to count things and keep track of what is going on. Also, that 'if statements' select different pieces of code to execute depending on what happens to other objects.</i></p>	<p><i>Talk to your child about what they are doing at school. As part of our Internet Safety lesson, pupils will learn about plagiarism. You can talk to them about why it should be avoided.</i></p>

HUMANITIES		
<p><i>Topic: Vikings</i></p> <p><i>We will continue our studies into the Vikings in Britain working on the impact that they had upon the Anglo Saxons. We will think about the evidence we see still in Britain today that reminds us of these Viking invasions. The children will continue to use a range of sources to find out about Viking life especially about their longboats their design and purpose. We will introduce King Ethelred II and explore and explain when and why Danegeld was introduced in Britain.</i></p> <p><i>The children will focus on and learn about the monastic way of life in Anglo-Saxon Britain and why monasteries were targeted by Vikings. Finally, we will reflect upon the importance and legacy of the Vikings.</i></p>		
MUSIC	RE	PSHE
<p><i>In music we will continue to learn the recorder, playing from notation with confidence. The children will understand how to play low D on the recorder.</i></p> <p><i>The children will develop the skill to play their recorders with the correct breath pressure and control.</i></p> <p><i>The children will learn how body percussion can be notated and created so they can compose and perform a piece of music they have written.</i></p>	<p><i>Pupils will be learning about Christianity. They will think about why Jesus is important to Christians and the importance and Easter & Pentecostal Sunday.</i></p> <p><i>Children will also think about how Jesus is relevant in their lives today.</i></p> <p><i>Pupils will explore and interpret religious metaphors.</i></p>	<p><i>Topic: <u>Healthy Me</u></i></p> <p><i>This half-term pupils will increase awareness of:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - healthier friendships - group dynamics - harmful effects of smoking - harmful effects of alcohol use - assertiveness - peer pressure - celebrating inner strength

ART & DT	PE
<p><i>Pupils will develop their knowledge about works created by various artists, designers and architects as well as their influences.</i></p> <p><i>The children will explore the work of Andy Warhol and explore the Pop Art movement.</i></p> <p><i>They will also create a self-portrait in the style of Andy Warhol using ICT.</i></p>	<p><i>This half term the children will focus on Outdoor & Adventurous Activities through playing the team games the children will learn about trust and teamwork to solve a problem. The children will learn about the importance of co-operation in completing a team task. They will develop the skills of using effective communication and co-operation to work as a team.</i></p> <p><i>The children will orientate themselves with confidence and accuracy around a short trail understanding symbols in a pictorial layout. They will use a simple map of the school with confidence and accuracy to complete a challenge.</i></p> <p><u><i>Swimming:</i></u></p> <p><i>Pupils will continue to swim competently, confidently and proficiently over 25 metres or more using a range of strokes effectively (e.g. front crawl, backstroke, side stroke)</i></p> <p><i>They will learn to perform safe self-rescue in different water-based situations.</i></p>