



Year 2 Newsletter – Spring 1, 2024

Literacy

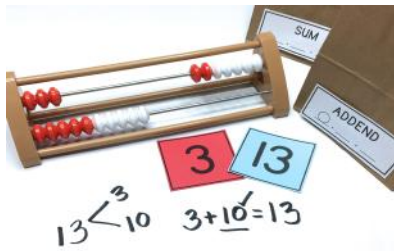
This half-term we will be reading a book called *Escape to Pompeii*, which is in the genre of historical fiction and links with topics of ancient Rome and natural disasters. Set against the backdrop of the eruption of Vesuvius in AD 79, it helps bring the topic to life and provides a rich background knowledge of a significant historical period that we will also be studying in History. We will be using the book to learn about and stimulate our own writing in different styles such as setting descriptions, diary entries, letters and ultimately, a newspaper report.

We continue to work on our handwriting as we move on from diagonal joins. Diagonal joins form over half the joins we need and we will now move on to learn the horizontal joins that you use from the top of letters such as o, r, v and w. If you see us starting a letter from the bottom, please remind us that all letters start from the bottom, please remind us that all letters start from the top, as otherwise we cannot join them!

Numeracy

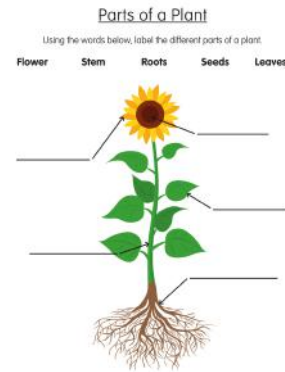
Last term we started to include a 10 minute Maths Mastery session in our day.

These short sessions underpin our daily learning and we have been enjoying using Rekenreks to help us visualise number calculations such as additions, subtraction and doubling, to help us spot the number bonds that can be made, to help us do the mental maths.



We continue to learn about multiplication and sharing (division) and we will also be covering shapes.

Science



This half-term we will be looking at plants.

Did you know....?

Beatrix Potter, the world famous author of the Tale of Peter Rabbit and others, was also a passionate botanist in the field of mycology (mushrooms)?

Computing

This half-term we will be learning to create media; learning to add text and images, to consider page orientation and to edit **font** and **graphics**.

PSHE

In PSHE, the children will be considering communities, what it means to belong to a community and how communities care for the environment. We will look at the work of the Environment Agency and consider water safety.

History

This term we will be learning about the Great Fire of London. As we learn about an event in history, beyond living memory, we have to develop new sets of skills to become historians; identifying the facts from the tales and myths, comparing how life was different then to now and consider what lasting legacy an event like the Great Fire has had. We will learn about different sources and types of evidence that we can use, to enable us to find out this information.

RESPECT curriculum

We continue to solve challenges using our COJO RESPECT curriculum, helping the children develop life-skills and character development (Resilience, Empathy, Self-awareness, Passion, Excellence, Communication and Team-work).

Art and Design

This half term we will be using mixed media to look at art representing the Great Fire of London.



Physical Education/Swimming

Swimming continues on a Tuesday, and PE (gymnastics) on a Thursday. Please wear PE kit on both days.

RE

Our big question this half-term is... What is the good news that Jesus brings? We will be thinking about what good news means to us and what are the good news stories in the Bible.

Music

We'll be having fun with improvisation, creating our own rhythms and music.

Home Learning

Homework will be set each Thursday, please return for marking by Wednesday. Spellings will be tested on a Tuesday. Please encourage daily reading and continue to record it in the Reading Record. Thank you!