



# Spring Term Topics

Dear Parents & Carers,

If you find anything within the plans you think you can help with in school please let the teacher know. We will be pleased to see you in school helping the learning.

## **Special Events**(All dates as accurate as possible!)

During this term each class will present another 'Show and Tell' assembly: Class Three 8<sup>th</sup> March, Class Two 15<sup>th</sup> March, and Class One 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

**Parent Evenings** will be in the week beginning Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February.

**End of Term** Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March with our final term's assembly at 1:15

**Help in School** We are always happy to have helpers in school. Please let us know if you can come in to assist at any time. Also let us know of any special skills or interests you have which could be used within school too.

## **After school clubs**

You will receive a timetable for after school clubs with this Newsletter. Please sign up so we can make a start quickly. Any parents who feel able to lead, or help with, a club please let me know as soon as possible.

**Help!!** Included within the newsletters, throughout the term, will be various appeals for help both in and around school and practical as well as theoretical. Please keep your eyes open and if you can offer your help.

**Display Screens** We have a new display screen in the entrance lobby which will show weekly events, updates and latest news. Please use this as a first point of information. The original screen, in the open area, will continue to show photos of school events, classroom activities and other school based news.

**Tea & Chat** This term we can meet in The Beaconsfield Arms for coffee from 2pm on **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January** and **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February** to browse the library and chat before collecting the children at 3:05

**Friends** There will be opportunities to help all the children at school through the work of the Friends of School. Please look out for their contributions to the Newsletter and try to attend meetings of the Friends in school. The first meeting is on **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> at 8pm in school**

**Swimming** Except for the Year Six children everyone in school will be swimming at Diss pool this term. Year Six are working with Dance East. First date is **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January** Last date is **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March**.

**History** We will be learning about transport in the past. We will learn about the people in the past who played a key part in inventing different types of transport and we will find out how people in the past got to school.

**ICT** During the first of half term we will be practising using the laptops to improve our keyboard skills. We will also learn about saving and retrieving our work.

**Design and Technology** During the second half of term Class One will be designing, making, testing and evaluating their own model car. A letter will go out nearer the time asking you to collect junk modelling items for this.

This term the children will learn to recognise the difference between pulse and rhythm and perform a range of tunes with a sense of pulse. They will explore changes of speed and create simple accompaniments for a song.

**Numeracy Year 1** Children in Year 1 will start off by becoming more familiar with numbers to 50. They will then use this knowledge to work on calculation with an emphasis on subtraction. We will be using number lines to practise 'counting back'. They will be revising number bonds and learning new number bonds to 8. Our work on shape, space and measures will involve children becoming more familiar with the language of direction and they will also focus on weight. We will also be learning about counting on in tens, including how to find ten more or less than any number to 50.

**Reception** Children in Reception will start off comparing and ordering numbers to 10 and 20. They will then be introduced to the idea of subtraction and will use their number knowledge to complete practical activities that involve 'taking away'. After this will we revisit the addition work covered last term and will begin to look at number sentences using the + and = sign. Our work on shape, space and measures will involve children becoming more familiar with positional language. They will continue practising using the language of 'more' and 'less' by finding 1 more and less than any number to 10 and above.

**Geography** A new member of the class will join us in January, a little green dragon! We will be studying the different environments in Occold (the playground, the playing field etc) to find the perfect place for him to live. We will also be using simple maps to help us plan our field work.

**Sorting and using materials** The children will learn about the characteristics and uses of a range of common materials and vocabulary for describing and comparing materials.

**Plants and animals** The children will learn about plants and animals in their immediate environment and how differences between places very close to each other result in a different range of plants and animals being found. They will learn that like humans, plants and other animals reproduce.

**Art and Design** For the first half of term Class One will be practising their painting skills. They will be using different techniques to apply paint to paper in response to a story. After half term the children will be doing some 3D work. They will be using clay and junk modelling to form different sorts of transport.

# Occold and Transport



For the first half of term we will be learning about the local environment and will be doing fieldwork around Occold. For the second half of term we will be learning about transport in the past.

**Please note:**  
**Reading books will not get changed unless you or a member of staff has signed your child's reading book, you do not have to make a comment.**



**Literacy** After some work recounting what happened during the Christmas holidays the children will hear the story of 'St. George and the dragon' to tie in with work on Traditional fairy tales. Continuing with the dragon theme we will then look at fantasy stories and will act out and then write our own dragon fantasy story. After half term we will spend some time learning about poems with pattern and rhyme that are on a transport theme. Our non-fiction work this term is 'instructions' and Class One will be learning how to write instructions for making their junk-modelled car. Phonics will continue as usual- please continue to support your child at home by helping them learn their sounds.

**Religious Education** In RE this term we will be focussing on Christianity. We will be learning about what Christians believe about Jesus and will look at some of the stories about Jesus' life. At the end of term Class One will finish their work on Jesus' life by learning about the Easter story. They will find out what the Bible says about Easter and will think about why Christians believe Jesus was an important leader.

# Class Two

## **Science**

### **Rocks and soils**

The children will learn to recognise that underneath all surfaces is rock that they may not be able to see, that rocks get broken down into pebbles and soils, which we can often see, and that there are different sorts of rock with different characteristics. Pebbles and soils from different rocks consequently have different characteristics.

### **Circuits and conductors**

The children will build on their previous practical experience of making circuits. They will extend their understanding of circuits, conductors and insulators and the need for a complete circuit in order for a device to work. Children are introduced to ways in which they can vary the current in a circuit.

## **Music**

### **Exploring Pitch**

This term the children will learn to discriminate between higher and lower sounds and to create simple melodic patterns. They will explore how simple tunes are made of different pitches and relate these sounds to symbols.

## **History**

This term we will be finding out about castles. The children will research castles and how they have changed and developed over time. We will experience what it would have been like to live in a castle and try on clothes, cook and eat a medieval banquet and discover how castles were built and what they were used for.

## **Design and Technology**

In D and T this term we will be constructing our own castles. We will investigate different materials and decide which will be the most suitable for the project. The children will then look at different joining techniques and ways to make parts of the castle move. The children will get the chance to apply all of their knowledge of the features of castles when they construct a lifelike model.

## **Religious Education**

This term in R.E we will be learning about Easter and why and how Christians celebrate at this time of year. The children will find out about the different ways that Christians celebrate Easter in different parts of the world.

## **Personal, Social and Health Education**

Class 2 will be thinking about building healthy relationships this will be linked to our work on castles. The children will share their ideas and opinions and take part in discussions and debates concerning the ways that we interact with others, including friends, family and other people in the community.

## **Information and Communication Technology**

During our topic work this term we will find out how computers and technology can be used for communicating with people. We will focus on thinking about how we can write for different audiences and how ICT can be used to help with this.

## **Art & Design**

For the first half of term Class Two will be doing some 3D work. Using clay the children will be making their own shield that they will have designed. After half term the children will be practising their painting skills. Children will be painting their own castle picture using the styles of other artists to help them.

## **PE & Games**

This term Year Six will spend time working on Dance with Dance East. The other sessions will look at various team sports including basketball, netball and hockey.

# Class Three

## **Science**

### **Life cycles**

The children will learn that plants and animals reproduce as part of their life cycle and that in every life cycle there are distinct processes and stages. They should begin to understand how reproduction is important to the survival of the species.

### **Changing circuits**

The children will consolidate their knowledge of materials which are electrical conductors, extend their understanding of ways in which the brightness of bulbs or speed of motors in a circuit can be changed and develop their understanding of the value of using conventional symbols for communication.

## **Music**

### **Exploring Melodies and Scales**

This term the children will learn to use a 5-note (pentatonic) scale to create and play short melodies and accompaniments. They will explore the structure of melodies and sing melodies that fit together.

## **Art & Design**

For the first half of term Class Three will be doing some 3D work. Using clay the children will be designing and then making their own carving taking inspiration from a range of cultures. After half term the children will be practising their painting skills. Children will be studying the work of Georgia O'Keefe and J. M. W. Turner and then using their styles to create

## **PE & Games**

This term Year Six will spend time working on Dance with Dance East. The other sessions will look at various team sports including basketball, netball and hockey.

## **Geography**

### **The mountain environment**

To investigate, through research, places in the UK, Europe and further afield that share a similar physical environment. Children will work in groups or individually using a range of resources to find out about mountain environments – what they are like, where they are, weather and tourism.

## **History**

### **What can we learn about recent history from studying the life of a famous person?**

To learn about aspects of recent history through the study of the life of a famous person – someone who made a significant impact on popular culture and entertainment and whose life portrays some of the key social and cultural changes of the post-war period.

## **R.E.**

### **Religion and the individual**

To learn what is expected of a believer following a religion and the impact of belief on people's lives. (Christianity, Hinduism, Islam)

## **P.S.H.E.**

### **Building Healthy Bodies**

To investigate the development of behaviours and attitudes that will ensure that the children grow up respecting their bodies (and minds) and adopting a healthy lifestyle.

## **D. & T.**

### **Hats – textiles**

To learn how products, like hats, are designed for different purposes and people. Designers must address a range of needs and need to know about making accurate patterns/templates and detailed work drawings. They will also need to develop making and finishing skills to enhance the quality of the finished product. They learn to evaluate the product critically against design criteria and identify what to do to improve them.

## **I.T.**

### **Evaluating information, checking accuracy and questioning plausibility**

To learn the importance of checking information held on databases for mistakes and anomalies, how to detect mistakes and how to amend them.

### **Monitoring environmental conditions and changes**

To learn that devices can be connected to a computer to monitor and measure changes in environmental conditions