

TERMtalk

CURRICULUM NEWS
FOR THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY
Issued termly Term 1 Year 4 September 2015

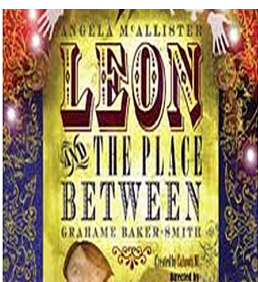


English

Our main focus for the first half-term is **fantasy stories**. In particular we will be reading the book “**Leon and the Place Between**” We will use the book to investigate and describe how **settings** are built up imaginatively through small details. We will also study how **characters** are brought to life and how our knowledge of them can be used to predict what will happen in the story. Children will be taught how to use some of the new grammar objectives from the **New English Curriculum** such as prepositions, pronouns and adjectives to help them improve their writing.

The second half term we will be focusing on **non fiction**, in particular **non chronological reports**. Children will be finding out about the role of **Diwali** in the Hindu religion by reading information texts and watching some BBC video clips: this will enable them to learn the skills of note taking. They will then

be writing their own reports about **Diwali**.



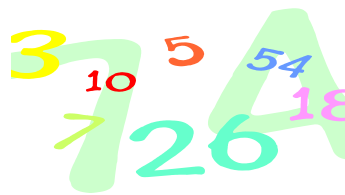
Maths

This term the children will follow the **New National Curriculum** for maths, but many objectives are similar. The main emphasis for the first half term is still **place value, ordering and rounding** and working with **numbers up to 10,000**. We will also consolidate our understanding of the **relationship** between **addition** and **subtraction, doubling** and finding **patterns**.

There will be plenty of revision of **mental methods of the four rules of number** involving hundreds, tens, and units.

The children will be checking their answers by using **inverse operations** e.g. subtracting to check addition and multiplying to check division work.

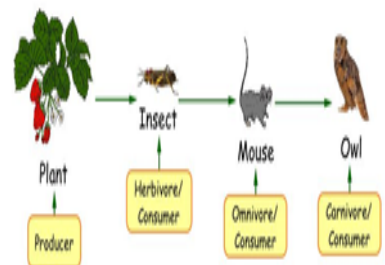
As the term goes on children will also be working with statistics, and revising **mental and written methods of multiplication and division**. They are also expected to learn **length and perimeter**. The other topics that they will be studying are **money** and “**real life**” problems. We will strengthen converting **pence to pounds** and **pounds to pence**. In length, we will get accustomed to changing **centimetres to metres**.



Science

Our Science topic for the first part of the term is all about **Animals including humans**. Children will be learning about **food groups & healthy balanced diets**. They also will study the human **digestive system** & how food is transported around the body. They will also compare diets of **herbivores, carnivores & omnivores**. Finally they will investigate **teeth** & what causes **decay** and look closely at **food chains and webs**.

The Food Chain Of An Owl

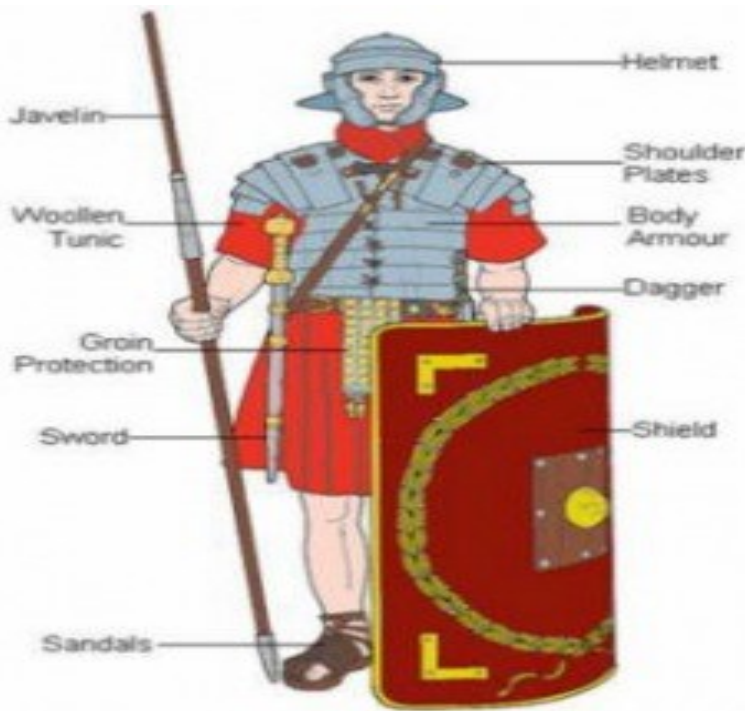


A food chain shows the path of energy from one living thing to another. Decomposers like bacteria, are necessary for all food chains.

During the second part of the term, children will be studying the **States of matter**. They will be finding out about the properties of the three different states of matter: **solids, liquids & gases**. They will also learn how to use **thermometers** and set up enquiries about matter **changing from one state to another**.



OTHER SUBJECTS



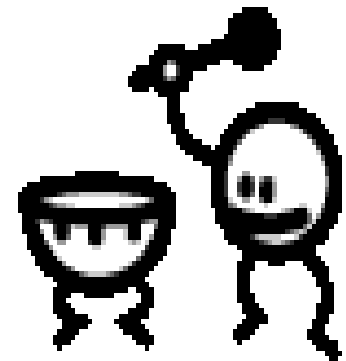
Music

During this term the children will be working on composing their own music using percussion instruments. They will be experimenting with making music from random choices and developing their musical reasoning skills; what they think of a piece of music and why.

HISTORY

In History this term we will be studying **Roman Britain**. We will begin by investigating the ancient group of people who lived in Britain 2000 years ago; the **Celts**. We will learn about **where they lived, what they ate and what they spent their time doing**. We will then find out about the growth of the **Roman Empire** and contrast the Roman way of life with that of the Celts. We will discover **when and why the Roman invaded Britain**, and find out about the emperors **Julius Caesar and Claudius**.

In the second half term, we will be **studying** how the Roman settlers lived in Britain. We will find out how they built their roads and cities, how they made and decorated luxurious villas, what they ate and what gods they believed in.



Computing

Throughout the second half term the children will be working on the unit '**Animations**'. They will be learning how simple stop animations work, and creating their own basic animations and learning to edit them. Children will be using the story of Rama and Sita as cross curricular links to English and RE.



MORE SUBJECTS

Art & Design

Much of our work this term will be based around our topics in English, History and RE. The visiting artist will make puppet clowns to connect with our English topic. We will also use different media to produce our work on the festival of Diwali, including pictures of oil lamps called divas.



RE

In the first half term we will study the topic **The Bible**. In the second half term we will be studying the topic **Trust in God**. See separate sheet for more information



P.E. & Games

In **gym** this term the emphasis will centre on **travelling** and **balance** with the children showing a greater deal of control in their movements. This half-term will concentrate on practising different types of **jumping** and **rolls**. These will be practised in isolation, at first, before challenging the children to make up a small sequence of roll, to feet and jump. The children will then extend these sequences to working with **apparatus**.

In **Games**, the children will revise and practise a wider range of **football skills** with the emphasis being on greater **control**. They will learn different **passing**, **dribbling** and **shooting skills** and these will then be incorporated into small-sided games where rules will be introduced.