



# LOWER KEY STAGE TWO YEAR 3 AND 4 CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER – Spring 2020

We have a lot to look forward to throughout this term and the remainder of this academic year. Thank you for the incredible effort made with costumes for Roman Day – the children looked fantastic and it really helped them to adopt the roll of a Roman and immerse themselves in their learning. Our overarching themes will encompass our curriculum lessons, our English lessons; linking texts to the main theme in some way, and our art and design and technology lessons. The children will continue to develop practicing and refining a range of art techniques including sketching, water colour, baking, design, print making and ceramics design.

Autumn	Spring	Summer
Curriculum		
The Romans	The Indus Valley	Entertainment 1900-2000
		Henry VIII

### Homework

In years 3 and 4, the homework set aims to allow the children to practise key skills that will benefit your child's learning within core subjects (English; inclusive of reading and writing, and maths). Reading, weekly spellings and times tables homework are mandatory. Spellings tests take place on Mondays, and new spellings are set on Tuesdays.

- **Regular Reading**

**Please ensure that the reading record is sent in to school every day. We closely monitor and record the number of times that the children are reading at home. Please ensure that any reading at home is recorded in your child's reading record.**

Reading has been proven to have an invaluable impact on children's progress within Literacy. Short but regular reading sessions at home are very important, to support children's fluency and comprehension of the range of texts that they read. In the middle of your child's Reading Record you will find a page dedicated to questions and discussion points that you could use when reading with your child.

Children should read aloud for a minimum of 10 minutes per day, 3-5 times per week. Please tick and initial your child's reading record each time they read to you; the children have the opportunity to achieve reading awards throughout the year. Please note any comments in your child's reading record and encourage your child to use the reading list pages on the front and back covers to keep a record of the books/texts that they read at home.

- **Weekly spellings**

Sets of spellings will continue to be sent home weekly in spelling journals. These will either be statutory spellings, curriculum words or common misspellings from classwork. As with reading at home, we closely monitor the results of spelling tests. Thank you for the efforts made at home so far.

- **Weekly times tables**

**Please note that the new year 4 statutory times tables assessment will take place during this academic year; therefore, it is of great importance that the children practise their times tables regularly. We are aiming for fluency and rapid recall.**

As you are aware, we have introduced Times Tables Rockstars – a superb tool for developing fluency and rapid recall of both times tables and division facts. We are thrilled by the enthusiasm shown so far by the children. **The children should aim to complete 4-5 games, five times per week. Please note – the ‘Soundcheck’ option is perfect practise for the Year 4 Statutory Times Tables check; the children have just 6 seconds to answer each question.** I am sending home a letter which contains the username and password for your child just in case the sticker becomes misplaced, along with some FAQs. However, please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any queries.

Written times tables practise will continue to be sent home weekly, in order for us to monitor progress and set appropriate times tables for your child on TT Rockstars. Any verbal times table recall games or practise will also be of great benefit. The children will also see the benefits of having a secure knowledge of their times tables as we work through the Mathematics curriculum.

- **Termly projects**

Occasionally, the children will be set a creative project that links to the curriculum topic at the time. This will be an extended piece of homework and the children will have three weeks to complete it.

## **Timetable**

This term our daily timetable will continue to include English, mathematics and collective worship every morning, and each afternoon as follows (please note, there may be minor changes to the timetable dependent on the learning taking place during the week).

- Monday: Reading and Curriculum (History/Geography)
- Tuesday: Reading comprehension, RE and ICT
- Wednesday: PE and Reading comprehension
- Thursday: French and PE
- Friday: Creative (Art and/or DT) and PSHE or Enrichment.

The children will also take part in music lessons throughout the year. Please pay particular attention to the PE days and **ensure that PE kits are in school when needed**. Please note that some PE lessons will take place outside throughout the winter months; therefore, please ensure that a pair of PE trousers and a jumper is provided. If your child has had their ears pierced and is unable to take the earrings out for PE, please ensure that you provide some microporous tape/plasters for us to cover the earlobes with.

You are welcome to send a piece of fruit for your child to eat at break time each day. Please note that we are a nut free school. Please note that soft toys/toys should not be brought in to school. Please do not hesitate to contact myself or the school office should you wish to discuss anything.

Kindest regards

Miss Beth Benton