

Dodford First School

English

Help at home by continuing to hear your child read a range of books both fiction and non-fiction. Ask them questions about the story/ characters/ setting.

We hope to cover the following genres this term:

- Myths and legends (linked to our theme). Children will read a range of myths, identify the language and structure. They will write myths and perform them.
- Poetry – we will explore poetic forms and perform poetry.
- Discursive and Persuasive texts linked to theme
- Fantasy narrative text
- Recounts based upon our theme
- Mantle of the Expert writing stimuli lined to theme.

Word lists will be sent home on Monday - remember to practise them every day. A spellings test will take place on the following Monday.

Computing

Children will expand their computing skills using a range of software and hardware through all subjects.

Music

We will focus heavily upon our Young Voices concert (Thursday 17th January). Please support your child by helping them to learn the words at home.

We will also link our music to our science topic of sound in the 2nd half term.

PE

In PE we will have two sessions per week. Class teachers will focus upon dance and yoga this term supported by qualified coaches. Alan Gormley will focus upon games skills.

Spring Term

**Topic:
It's All Greek To Me**



The children will be looking at the lives of people living in Ancient Greece. Their lives, influence and legacy including:

Learning about modern Greece and comparing to Ancient Greece.

Investigating Ancient Greece through what has been left behind.

Interpreting information from sources of evidence

Differences in the lives of men, women and children in Ancient Greece

Ancient Greek everyday lives.

Beliefs of the Ancient Greeks

Olympic Games

Democracy and the Ancient Greeks

Greek soldiers

Greek theatres

Art/DT

The children will be using their sketchbooks and making links to topic by exploring mosaics and Greek urns.

French

Children continue to learn French this term. This will include amongst others; a revision of the 1st term's work and will continue to explore French phrases associated with themselves including body parts, actions, colours and clothes.

Maths

Throughout the term:

- Mental counting, partitioning, rounding, ordering, reading and writing numbers.
- Mental and written addition and subtraction strategies
- Measurement including capacity and mass.
- Mental and written multiplication, division
- Emphasis upon times tables recall, speed and accuracy including division facts.
- Fractions.
- Applying four rules to problem solving and extending our reasoning skills.

Please remember to practise the relevant times tables appropriate to your child. Please see your child's targets or ask Mrs Eggleton.

Science:

1st half term: The children will study a unit about Forces.

2nd half term : The children will study a unit about Sound.

RE

Children will learn about how the bible is important for Christians, particularly stories from the bible. Children will also look at the Easter story.

PSHE/ Growth Mindset

Children will continue to listen to each other's thoughts and opinions, recognising and understanding that each one of us is unique. We will continue to discuss issues through our P4C sessions. We will also focus upon the child friendly Growth Mindset statements.

Key skills will be developed in all areas of the curriculum and learning will be linked to our Topic Focus wherever appropriate

Homework – Homework will continue to follow the routine of English and Maths on alternate weeks. Homework will be given out on a Thursday and will be due in on the following Wednesday unless otherwise stated.

Library – Our library times are posted in our classroom on the door and on the school newsletter at the start of term, but will remain Wednesdays on a fortnightly basis.

Please regularly initial your child's reading diary and continue to make comments about your child's reading. Year 4 children should be encouraged to make comments in themselves their diaries.

P.E.

Tuesday – yoga 1st half term and
dance 2nd half term
Friday – games

Please ensure that children have their correct outdoor kit in school every day this term Please ensure that children have removed earrings and have their hair tied back on P.E. days.

Please encourage your child to complete homework independently and carefully. Please check your child's homework when they have finished. Complete all homework in pencil.

Please send a note in to Mrs Eggleton if there is a particular problem completing homework

We will continue to focus upon our Growth Mindset child friendly statements this term. Please support us by reinforcing these messages at home:

- I CAN ALWAYS IMPROVE
- MISTAKES HELP ME LEARN
- I CAN LEARN ANYTHING I WANT TO
- IF I TRY HARD I CAN SUCCEED.
- I LEARN FROM OTHERS
- I KEEP TRYING EVEN WHEN IT'S HARD.
- I LIKE TO CHALLENGE MYSELF

THANK YOU

Thank you so much for the wonderful and thoughtful presents Miss Strachan, Mrs Jackson and myself received for Christmas. We are sincerely grateful.

Don't forget that the Daily Mile will continue regardless of weather. Please ensure that your child has a waterproof coat and a pair of wellies in school (labelled) to ensure that the children continue to participate in this activity.

English homework will often have a writing/composition emphasis. Please support your child by providing them with a suitable environment to write. Allow them to write independently at first. Talk to them about their writing once they have completed. Please encourage them to re-read their work, looking for the success criteria. Please avoid correcting their work for them. It is better to work with them, so that they can begin to identify what they have done well and what they can do better.