**Frieth School**



**Kestrels’ Curriculum News**

Welcome back to school and the beginning of the Summer Term. Our new topic is entitled “Monsters” and we are looking forward to what will be an exciting term. Here is an outline of the work we will be covering over the term.

**English**

The term will involve looking at Myths and Legends - how they have been passed down over time, their features, culminating in writing our own versions.

Inaddition to this,the children will establish the meaning of proverbs and through the story of The Witches by Roald Dahl learn about play scripts and the use of dialogue. Having learnt about this form of writing, they will then construct their own plays.

Using shapes they will create poems and think about the use of vivid adjectives, relative clauses, onomatopoeia and similes in their ideas.

Spellings will continue to be sent home on a Monday, as well as a termly list on a book mark. The weekly spelling patterns will be tested each Monday and so may the words on your book mark, so please make sure that these are learnt at home. It is important that these words are always written correctly when doing the homework, therefore an adult will need to monitor the work so that mistakes are not being reinforced.

The children will have weekly Guided Reading sessions and have the chance to choose their own books to read during the week. All of the children need to read regularly at home to an adult each week and whenever possible be read to by an adult. Questioning about the text will help to ascertain the children’s understanding of the story and should include getting the children to identify the words in the text that justify their answers.

Throughout the term all areas will continue to support and cover the core skills of word structure and spelling plus sentence structure and punctuation.

**Maths**

We have started our maths learning this term by focusing on money which is a really excellent example of applying maths skills in the real world. This will include adding and subtracting sums of money and solving word problems involving money. We’ll then move on to a unit on statistics where the children will learn to interpret and present data in different forms such as pictograms, bar charts. After that we’ll be working on time which is another fantastic example of a really practical maths skill where there is an abundance of opportunity to practice and apply in the real world. We’ll finish off the term with units on geometry and properties of shape, measurement of volume and capacity and finally coordinates which is a Y4 objective that provides the chance to play Battleships!

Throughout the term we will be continuing with the weekly cracking times table tests (Wednesdays) and it is wonderful to see the pleasure they derive from their own successes here. Tables are an important building block in mathematical knowledge but it’s important to be able to reason with this knowledge, so do try to find opportunities to talk tables knowledge in your family lives (eg “if you have £5 week pocket money, how many weeks will it take you to save up for mummy’s present that costs £35?”). We will also be continuing our regular arithmetic assessments, another important maths skill that benefits from practice. Throughout all aspects of our maths teaching and learning runs the theme of developing their ability to reason with their maths knowledge.

Please don’t forget the Mathletics resource that is accessible on line and gives your child lots of opportunity for practice. Additionally, the maths games in Purple Mash are a great way to practice maths in a fun setting. More detail of the specific maths curriculum objectives for each of the year groups was made available at parents’ evening but if you would like any further information, please contact Mr Honey.

**Computing**

Recent news items have been a salutary reminder of the importance of e-safety and this will be a recurring theme in computing throughout this term. We’ll also be following a unit of work on Photo Stories where we’ll be using Publisher and Movie Maker to find creative ways of presenting digital photos. We’ll start by making a comic strip which fits in nicely with the Monsters theme.

**RE**

During this term we will ask the questions:

* Can we know what God is like?

The children will explore different views of God and how some people believe they can know God or know about God and why some do not believe at all.

* Does Jesus have authority over everyone?

The children will explore the life and teachings of Jesus from the perspective of his authority and will examine the authority he has for Christians today.

* What is best for our world? Does religion help people decide?

The children will explore how and why believers help others through charity and service.

**P.E.**

The children will continue to have sessions with Club Sport on a Wednesday focussing on dance. They will also be playing rounders in our Friday sessions. In the second half of the term they will have cricket sessions on a Tuesday and athletics activities leading up to sports day.

**French**

In French this term we will be learning vocabulary that relates to countries, continents and animals. The children will learn the specific vocabulary of the countries of the UK, continents and animals from different continents.

**Science**

We will begin the term with a series of lessons on living things and their habitats which will explore ways of identifying, sorting and classifying living things. The unit also introduces the children to the idea that environments are subject to man-made and natural changes and that these changes can have a significant impact on their animal populations. During the term’s second half we will be following a unit on Earth and Space.

**Creative**

In **Geography** we will be answering – *Can the earth shake, rattle and roll?* The children will learn about the structure of the earth, looking particularly at the causes and distribution of earthquakes and volcanoes and their effects on landscape and people. They will be introduced to the ‘Pacific Ring of Fire’, the most active region on earth, and consider why people choose to live on the flanks of volcanoes and in earthquake zones when both can be life-threatening. They will learn that volcanoes have existed throughout geological time, and that there are many different types. In **History** we will be answering the question –*How much did the Ancient Egyptians achieve?* They will explore who the Ancient Egyptians were, what they did and discuss whether Ancient Egypt deserves its reputation as one of the most important early civilisations.

Any resources or artefacts connected with this topic will be gratefully received.

In **Design Technology** the children will create their own sarcophagus and make papyrus paper.

**P.S.H.E**

I know.....I’m special (Good to be me)

Children will have the opportunity to recognise their own worth and that of others.

I think.....I’m special (Changes)

The children will identify positive ways to face new challenges and look at stereotyping.

**Art**

3D

*Yr3* The children will work with brown gummed tape to create a mould (bowl) whilst looking at the work of Kandinsky and also use clay.

*Yr4* The children will use own gummed tape to create a mould of a shoe.

Collage

The children will investigate explore how line, shape and space can be organised. Yr3 The children will investigate and respond to the work of Paul Klee. In response to the work of Victor Vaserly they will develop cutting and sticking skills and when looking at Henry Matisse’s work will investigate positive and negative images. Yr4 -The children will respond to the work of Henry Matisse and Francis Bacon. They will create their own portraits using collage.

**Music**

Work will focus on composition. The children will be given the opportunity to appreciate and understand a wide range of high quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians. They will look at the history of music.

Homework

Year 3: Spellings every Monday, English every other week on a Monday and Maths every Friday (due by the following Thursday).

Year 4: Spellings every Monday, English every week on a Monday and Maths every Friday (due by the following Thursday).

The children will also be given additional homework where required to support other areas of the curriculum such as Science and Creative Curriculum. The children are expected to practice for both their Cracking timetables tests (Wednesdays) and to learn their spelling each week. It is *vital* that reading books are brought back to school each day. Please encourage your child to put their homework books into their school bag as soon as they have completed their homework. Also please remember to comment on work if any support was given. Please also remember that homework, quite often maths, can be set on line so the absence of a home work book may not mean that there is no homework.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries or questions.

Mrs Sparks and Mr Honey