



Learning Challenge Curriculum

We are incredibly excited to have the children back in school to start off 2024! We will begin the term with our Marvellous Mayans theme! During the half term, we will be looking at what the Mayan civilisation was and the connections and trends over time. We will be finding out what they grew and ate as well as how the landscape affected their trade.

After half term, we will be exploring 'Riches of the Rainforest'! This will allow us the opportunity to look at maps, explore climate zones and rainforests in more detail.



Literacy

We have started the term by looking at descriptive poetry. We are busy unpicking the features and using these skills in our writing. We will create our own poems linked to the Mayans and share them with others. After that, we will be looking at one-sided arguments where children will get the chance to argue their point with others before writing a detailed piece of writing!

After half term, we will be creating a narrative linked to what we learn about rainforests. This story will have an issue or dilemma which the children will need to plan and resolve.



Maths

In Year 3, children will be exploring what multiplication looks like and means. Once they have this solid understanding, they will apply this to the x2, x4 and x8 tables.

In Year 4, children will continue their journey through learning all the multiplication facts up to 12 x 12. They will look at multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100.

Times tables and number bonds are a key focus in Y3 and Y4 as all children by the end of Year 4 need to have a 6 second recall time of all times tables. Please use TT rockstars frequently and come and see us if you need any support with this.



Design Technology and Science

In Design Technology we will be designing and making a toy with an electrical circuit. This will get the children to use their previously learnt knowledge of electricity to build a working circuit.

In Science, children will learn about the different parts of a plant, how water is transported through a plant and what happens during pollination. We hope for some good weather in the Spring term so that we can get the greenhouse up and grow some plants!



Attendance

Please make sure your child is in school and ready to learn at **8.50am every day**. If you have any messages to pass on, please let the teaching assistant know on the playground and they will pass the message on to the class teacher. Please try to avoid medical/dental appointments during the school day, and avoid taking holidays in term time as the children miss a lot of learning. This can result in your child falling behind their peers in many areas of learning. If your child is unwell, please ring school on **01904 806655 before 9am** and let us know.



How can you support your child's learning?

Hearing your child reading every day will have a huge impact on all areas of their learning. Can you please listen to your child read for at least 15 minutes three times a week and make a note in their reading record. Reading records will be checked on a **Friday** and house points will be awarded for children reading at least three times a week. A spelling list will be sent home on a Friday with 5 words to learn. Children will have a spelling test the following **Friday** on the words they have learnt. In addition to this, a piece of maths or reading homework will be set on a Friday and will need to be handed in the following **Friday**.

It is possible to access Times Table Rockstars from home and regular use of this has been shown to improve the speed of retrieving these important number facts. Additionally, Bug Club online will support your child with their reading fluency and comprehension skills. Each child has their own login. Please speak to a member of the team if you require these for home.



Things to remember each week - PE Days

Stingrays and Pufferfish - Monday and Thursday

Lobster - Monday

Lobster will be swimming from Thursday 11th January and the last swimming date will be Thursday 11th April. .

