



# Year 3 & 4 Curriculum News



## Welcome Back!

This term will have a geography focus, looking at rivers and the local environment. We will also be studying states of matter, nutrition and plants. The children may have already told you about the new residents in the classroom – tadpoles! We are watching the life cycle closely and linking it to our science work. As you've already heard, one of the exciting things this term will be our class trips to Elmswell Farm. This is an incredibly exciting trip because the farm has so much to offer the children and they will all have a truly amazing day.

### Geography



We will be finding out about rivers, the local environment and land use. We will be taking a trip to a local, working farm to look at the source of the river Hull and how important the river is to the environment. This will also link to our science on the states of matter and the water cycle, as well as our PSHE on the environment.

### Design Technology

During this term, we will be using joints to create movement as well as using and exploring complex pop-ups. This will be linked to our writing and research on making homes more environmentally friendly.



Food Technology

We will also be looking at food technology. This will involve tasting foods, choosing and preparing ingredients, and making a yummy, mini pizza quiche.

### Art



Initially, our art will focus on the work of S H Raza, an Indian, abstract artist. We will be using his work as inspiration for our own pieces of art, based on our topic of rivers.

After half term, we will be focusing on the artist Andy Warhol. We will be using pop art to sketch and create pieces of work linked to our science theme of plants and flowers.

### Writing



To begin with, this term, we will be looking at persuasive writing. Linking this to our other topics, we will be focusing on the environment and how we can persuade people to reduce, reuse and recycle in lots of ways.

Poetry will also be a writing focus this term and this will link to our rivers' topic. Our class trip will hopefully inspire the children's creativity in writing.

After half term, we will be looking at fiction focussing on characters view point and shape poetry.

### Fruit and water bottles

If you would like your child to have a piece of fruit at playtime, please send it with your child in a morning. It is important for children to drink water throughout the day. Please remember to send your child with a full bottle of water each morning. Can you please check that your child's name is on their water bottle and any other clothing or equipment brought to school. Any lost or misplaced items can then be returned to their owner quickly.



### Science



Firstly, we are finding out about states of matter and the water cycle, linking to our work on rivers.

Week commencing 21<sup>st</sup> May will be our whole school Science Week and will include lots of investigations and fun activities to get the children thinking about how important science is and thinking about our bodies and nutrition. After half term, science will focus on plants and flowers.

## Home Learning

The tasks should take approximately 20 to 30 minutes and may require your assistance with certain aspects of them - e.g. research. The children learn the skills of note taking during a variety of lessons in school, so that they can re-write what they read online in their own words. We welcome your assistance with this when completing any activities that require research.

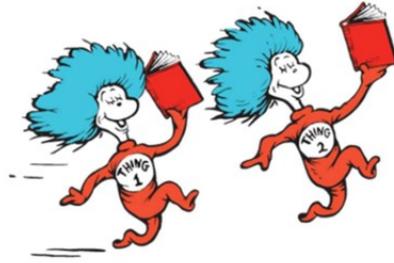
## Reading and spelling

For most children, the focus of their reading is about understanding what they have read. It is important to ask your child questions about what they have read including inference and prediction. Your child has been given a laminated copy of questions that you can use to check their understanding. If you no longer have this, please ask for another copy. Please ensure your child reads at home at least four times per week and record this in their planner.



We are seeing pleasing progress in spelling and are encouraging the children to show they can spell the year 3/4 common exception words and use the spelling rules they have learned in their work. It is important the children can use and apply different words and rules, so please try to use a variety of methods when practising their spellings. The list of common exception words is included in your child's planner.

The MORE  
that you read,  
the MORE things  
You will know.  
The MORE that you  
Learn,  
the MORE places you'll go.



## Times Tables

It is vitally important that your child knows their times Tables facts without having to count on their fingers. We are using them a lot in maths and so quick recall of them and related facts will greatly improve your child's progress during lessons.

We recommend practising little and often. Writing them down, chanting them, playing online games, using Mangahigh are all great ways to improve speed and recall. Your child should be able to say facts at random and also know related facts.

E.g.

$$7 \times 6 = 42 \quad 42 \div 6 = 7 \quad 42 \div 7 = 6 \quad 4200 \div 6 = 700$$

$$0.6 \times 0.7 = 4.2$$



## PE

A polite reminder that children require both an indoor and outdoor PE kit in school. Please ensure that your child brings their kit into school on a Monday so it can remain in school for the week. Please can we ask that girls also have an extra pair of socks in their PE bag, which can be worn instead of tights.

We are lucky enough to be able to take part in the Chance to Shine Programme for the first half term. Year 3 & 4 will be taught cricket skills by a professional coach on a Tuesday morning. We are also lucky to have some Nuffield Tennis coaches coming in to teach us some key tennis skills in May.

Other PE/Games for this term will include rounders, outdoor adventurous activities and athletics in preparation for Sports day.