



Talk for Reading

In Talk for Reading, we'll be learning about fireworks through three different genres: a fiction book (*the Firework Maker's Daughter*), a non-fiction text (*The Big Earth Book*) and a poem (*Fireworks* by James Reeves). The focus of this reading unit is to get children to understand stories that are told in a non-linear way and use their inference skills to piece together what is happening.

How can I support at home?

When you're reading with your child, point out any flashbacks/memories that are in the story and ask: What have we learnt? How does this change what we think about the characters and the story? Why do you think we haven't heard about this sooner?

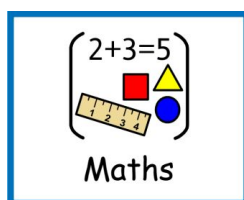


Talk for Writing

In writing, we'll be using *Grandpa's Teeth* by Rod Clement to help us write a mystery story about losing something and going on an adventure to get it back! Within this topic, we'll increase our confidence in performing drama pieces, understand how to find the meaning of a new piece of vocabulary, and even learn how to write a formal letter. Afterwards, we'll be crafting a non-fiction text and writing a persuasive radio advert to advertise a new set of teeth!

How can I support at home?

When you're reading with your child, see if you can identify any mysteries within the story. Ask the children if they are interested in finding out the solution to the mystery. If they are, ask what the author has done to get them so interested. If they aren't, ask how the author could make the story more exciting for the reader. In your discussions, try to spot how tension is built using short sentences and ellipsis.



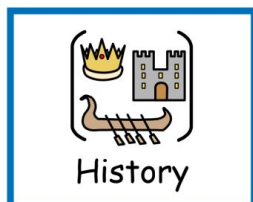
Maths

In maths, we will be measuring in metres, centimetres and millimetres, comparing lengths and looking at equivalent lengths. Perimeter will be introduced and the children will be working out perimeters of simple shapes. We will learn about fractions of numbers, equivalent fractions and how to order fractions as well as looking at capacity and volume this half term.

How can I support at home?

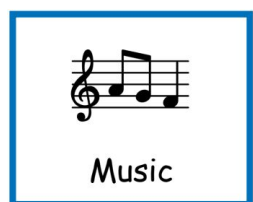
Compare lengths of objects and what could be used to measure them. Use a tape measure to measure & work out the perimeter of a room or object. Practise the column method for adding and subtracting 3 digit numbers. Practise 3, 4 and 8 times tables.

Videos on how we teach the concepts being covered this half term are [available here](#)



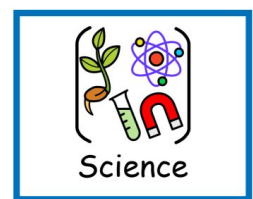
History

In history, we will be looking at the Iron Age and Bronze Age - In this unit, the children will explore the key features of the Bronze and Iron Ages, and come to conclusions about the developments within the periods. This will coincide with our exciting Stone Age & Iron Age workshop on the 4th February! More information to come soon!



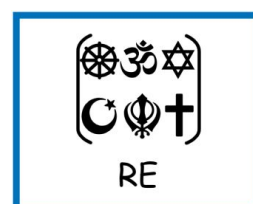
Music

During our next music topic, we will be looking at pentatonic melodies. There will be a focus on Chinese New Year and the traditional music listened to throughout this celebration. The children will be composing their own music on the keyboards, using the pentatonic scale. They will receive feedback from an audience on their piece and make changes to improve their piece.



Science

Our next science topic is all about forces and magnets. The children will be exploring different forces, including push, pull and gravity, and completing an investigation to identify which materials have the most and least friction. They will also be looking at magnets & their forces, magnetic materials and how a magnetic compass works.



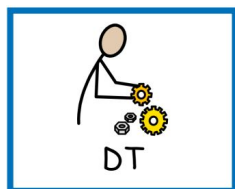
Religious Education

Our next RE topic is: 'How is fire used ceremonially?' We'll learn that fire represents different things to different religions, such as hope, peace, unity and saying goodbye to loved ones. We'll even learn how non-religious groups also use fire as a symbol, with reference to the reasons why the Olympic flame is carried.



PE

Our two PE topics for this half term are Basketball & Gymnastics. In Basketball, we'll learn to shoot effectively and move with the ball without travelling. In Gymnastics, we'll learn to move our bodies in regimented ways and how to perform a variety of balances.



Design Technology

Our topic for this half term will be: Constructing a Castle! The pupils will be designing a castle with key features to appeal to a specific person and purpose. This will include drawing and labelling a castle tower on CAD software, constructing 3D shapes using nets and making facades from a range of recycled materials.



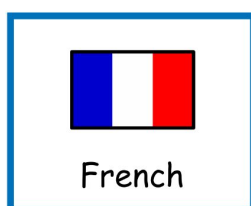
Computing

Our next computing topic is 'Branching Databases.' In this, pupils will understand what these types of databases are, how they use open-ended questions and what the words 'attribute' and 'fault' mean. After all this learning, pupils will have a go at creating their own branching databases to classify animals.



Jigsaw (PHSE)

'Dreams and Goals' is our next topic in PSHE. We will be looking at what we can do to build on our strengths, what helps us learn and what next steps we can take to in order to achieve our goals and ambitions. We will be discussing how we may have different dreams and goals to one another and that is okay.



French

Our next topic in French is called 'On fait la fete'. We are going to be learning about celebrations. We will be able to name the months of the year and put them in the correct order, as well as talk about when our birthday is. We will also be able to discuss and write about our hobbies in French.

Additional Information

For more year group information including key dates, , please visit the class pages on our website.

<https://www.portfieldsprimaryschool.org/children/class-pages>