



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?

Continue to read every day. Once your child has finished reading, ask them to summarise what has happened. Use the structure "somebody wanted.... but... so... then...." that the children are already familiar with. Also, ask them how reading that text made them feel. Can they pinpoint the words which contribute to this feeling?

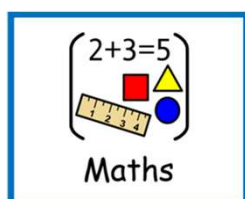


Talk for Writing

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 piece of writing 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. Continue to practice spellings everyday in order for your child to embed them in their individual writing.



Maths

In maths, our next topics are 'Mass & Capacity' and 'Fractions.' We'll be learning the difference between mass, capacity and volumes, reading scales to take measurements and using $<$, $>$ and $=$ to compare. We'll also be beginning to add and subtract fractions, and answering word problems revolving around find fractions of an amount.

How can I support at home?

If baking or cooking with a child at home, get them to weigh out solids and measure liquids in different methods. When eating objects that are cut equally (e.g. pizzas, pie, chocolate bars), ask your children to identify what fraction of the object that are eating. What would the fraction be if they had two more parts?

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, 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.



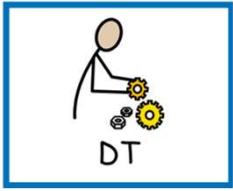
Religious Education

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

In the spring term, we will be taking part in quickwicks (hockey) and dodgeball. The children will be practising their passing and receiving skills. The children will develop their teamwork skills and put their competitive nature to good use.



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.



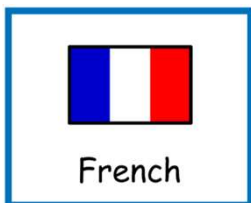
Computing

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.



PSHE

In PSHE, we will start out new unit about health and wellbeing. The children will learn to take greater responsibility for healthy eating and managing their dental health as well as thinking of energetic activities. They will identify their own strengths and understand that they can help other people and also describe how they would break a problem down into small, achievable goals.



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>