

Curriculum Newsletter Spring Term ~ Year 3 & 4

So that you feel clear about the teaching and learning intentions for Spring Term 2015, please enjoy reading this overview. We hope that you find it helpful ...

The focus will be a science based project about 'Animals, including humans.' The children will find out about food groups and healthy balanced diets, study the human digestive system and how food is transported around the body. They will investigate the human skeleton, looking closely at bones, joints and muscles, and compare this with animal skeletons. They will also discover the effects of exercise on their own bodies, recording how they are feeling and measuring the changes.

In the course of carrying out these activities, the children will design their favourite balanced meals, look at food packaging and briefly consider food miles. They will research how food is broken down and how small nutrients are absorbed into the blood system, which acts like a transport system to deliver them to all parts of the body. They will also look at the main functions of skeletons, discuss broken bones and look at X-rays. They will construct models to show how pairs of antagonistic muscles pull to work together.

The children will become experts in what makes a healthy balanced diet, setting up a company who are specialists in creating diets for vegetarians and vegans.

This will provide the children with high quality material for developing Literacy, Artistic, Musical, Personal and Social Education and will link strongly with other subjects across the curriculum to create an overarching 'project' theme.

Literacy work will involve writing adventure stories and working with playscripts in preparation for our Easter Show (Thursday 26th March). Numeracy work will involve place value in numbers including decimals, reading and writing units of time, length, mass and capacity and calculating the perimeter and area of simple shapes. They will be developing mental and effective written methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division calculations to help solve worded problems and continue to learn multiplication tables and derive associated division facts.

In PE, we will be undertaking activities outdoor activity with our MSP sports providers and they will consider the value of dance as a form of exercise, the effect it has on our bodies and that it can be a fun way to get fit!

Kind regards, Mrs Haynes

Update:

We are focusing on the **deeper understanding** of problem solving in school at the moment. This is specific to maths, but also in terms of ICT and the use of logical, thinking skills.

We are unpicking the important elements of any problem, making them clear and ensuring that we understand each part by being able to talk about the problem and use specific vocabulary.

You can help us with our 'talking maths' by asking you child(ren) to describe exactly the process they have followed.

Messages ...

- Homework goes out on a Friday and is due back in school on Wednesday.
- Please keep a PE kit in school all week. PE sessions are on Wednesday and Friday as standard, but other sessions may arise as linked with the project or extra opportunities.
- We hope you can find opportunities to read as much as possible across the week

