

Curriculum Newsletter Summer Term ~ Year 3 & 4

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

This term the main focus will be about 'My Community, My Commitment!'

The main non-core curriculum areas covered during this project are: Science, Geography, Citizenship, Art and Design, Design and Technology. The children will be tasked with the challenge to improve an area of land within the school grounds or local community. They will research and investigate the need for improvements involving the wider community and create a design portfolio of ideas. They will implement their ideas, recording the changes.

In the course of carrying out this project, here are some of the curriculum areas we hope to cover:

- Science: the functions of different parts of flowering plants, the requirements of plants for life and growth and how they vary from plant to plant, the way water is transported within plants and the part flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination, seed formation and dispersal.
- Geography: use fieldwork to observe, measure, record and present the human and physical features in the local area using a range of methods, including sketch maps, plans and graphs, and digital technologies.
- Citizenship: to provide pupils with the knowledge, skills and understanding to prepare them to play a full and active part in society.
- Art and Design: use sketch books to record their observations and use them to review and revisit ideas, to improve their mastery of art and design techniques, including drawing, painting and sculpture with a range of materials find out about great artists, architects and designers in history.
- Design and Technology: use research and develop design criteria to inform the design of innovative, functional, appealing products that are fit for purpose, generate, develop, model and communicate their ideas through discussion, annotated sketches, cross-sectional and exploded diagrams, prototypes, pattern pieces and computer-aided design.

This will also provide the children with high quality material for developing Literacy and Numeracy to create an overarching 'project' theme.

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

