Nacton C of E Primary School

Half Termly Newsletter

Year 3 and Year 4 – Spring 1

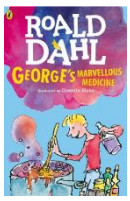
Dear families,

We hope you had a really enjoyable break and we would like to wish you a very 'happy new year!' Please find an overview of our curriculum for the 1st half of the Spring term including the areas of learning we will be focusing on in each subject.

As always, if you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to come and speak to us.

Mrs Henderson & Mrs Pearce

English



We will be starting the term by reading 'George's Marvellous Medicine' by Roald Dahl. We will be practising a number of different reading skills including retrieval, inference and summarising. We will also be writing poetry, reports and developing grammar skills including the use of different sentence types, fronted adverbials and the comma.

Maths

Our focus in maths will continue to be on multiplication and division. We will be learning about factors, practising more formal methods of calculation including column multiplication and will be exploring a range of methods for division.
We will also be learning about different way of measuring including area, perimeter and length.

Science

In Science, our unit of work is Sound. The children will learn how sounds are made when something vibrates. They will also learn that vibrations from sounds travel through a medium to the ear. We will look at the pitch of sound and investigate how the distance from the sound source affects the volume of the sound. The children will also plan, record and evaluate an investigation on Sound.

History

In history this term, we will be learning about RMS Titanic. We will be discovering what this luxurious passenger liner was like and why people wanted to be part of her maiden voyage across the Atlantic.
We will discover the timeline of events that lead to her sinking and how maritime law has changed as a consequence of this disaster which is still talked about today.

Computing

This half term we will look at repetition and loops within programming. The children will create programs by planning, modifying, and testing commands to create shapes and patterns. They will use Logo, a text-based programming language.

Art

In Art this half term our focus is **collage**.
The children will learn about a number of different artists, some well-known and some contemporary. We will study the varying techniques they used/use in their work and then practice, experiment, adapt and modify our own skills to produce pieces of work inspired by the artists explored.

Religious Education	**Physical Education**	**PSHE**
We are learning about Hindu Dharma and exploring the question - Why do Hindus want to collect good karma?	In PE, the children will be swimming weekly for the whole term at Fore Street Pool where they will gradually work through a series of skills and will receive certificates at the end of the term based on their level of competence. We will also work on the invasion game of Handball and pupils will look at attacking and defending. Pupils will work on maintaining possession and moving the ball towards the goal.	Our PSHE unit of work this half term is based on citizenship. The children will be learning about the importance of recycling; learning about the role of the local council; understanding the value of diversity in a community as well as understanding their rights as a child.
Music In Music, the children will learn what ballads are, how to identify their features and how to convey different emotions when performing them. The children will select vocabulary to describe a story, before turning them into lyrics by incorporating rhyming words and following the structure of a traditional ballad.	**French** We will be completing the unit 'Le pique-nique' with a focus on- understanding a variety of questions about food and drink and expressing likes and dislikes.	

Important dates:	Home learning expectations:
Please note that with swimming lessons taking place on Tuesday, there will be no PE lesson on Wednesday and children should come to school in full school uniform. We will continue with a PE lesson every Friday.	***Please note that from *this* half term we will be using a new times table system on a Wednesday morning to support the learning of multiplication tables. Your child will have the times table/s they are working on recorded weekly in their Reading Record along with their weekly spelling test score.*** You child should continue with completing 15 minutes of TT Rockstars a week. Please ensure your child is reading their age appropriate reading book at least 4 times a week, and that they bring their Reading Record to school daily as they may read with an adult. They will also be collected in every Monday. Your child will have weekly spellings which will be stuck into their Reading Record on a Friday. This term they will have the addition of challenge words which are taken from their year group's statutory word list. These words are common words used in books, texts or when writing that the children are expected to know. They may not also follow a spelling rule. The 'Takeaway Homework Menu' will continue to be sent home with a range of different tasks from across curriculum, so that a breadth of learning can be explored and enjoyed.