

Newdigate Infant CofE school curriculum information for parents - Autumn term 2018

English

We start this half-term by writing a non chronological report on Owls! We then move on to our poetry unit, where we start by learning about rhyme, repetition and the structure of limericks. We will use the Edward Lear poem 'The Owl and the Pussycat' for this. The children will be given opportunities within this unit for a 'spoken language' focus through drama and peer discussion.

The term continues with two weeks of non-fiction and two weeks of fiction writing. We will link our fiction writing to Harvest.

Our author this term is 'Anthony Browne'. We will compare and contrast his stories and discuss our preferences.

We will have weekly focuses on spelling, punctuation and grammar through our phonics sessions and within English lessons.

After half term, we will have further units of work on poetry, fiction and non-fiction that include our topic as well as an R.E focus in the lead up to Christmas. Our phonics sessions will begin by consolidating the 'Read Write Inc' program and then move on to the Year 2 spelling focuses. This includes alternative spellings and pronunciations as well as suffixes and contractions.

Computing

This term we will be looking at our 2graph, 2question and 2 investigate programmes and this will be completed through Maths activities. We will also be presenting data using one of these programs.

P.E

This term we are lucky to have Premier Sports returning to run sessions across the school. This half term the focus is on Gym and Dance skills. In addition to this, we continue to run regular, short physical breaks through our 'Jump Start Johnny' interactive dancing, challenges, chill outs and mindfulness sessions. When possible we go outside to have physical rest breaks and we also take part in meditation and yoga sessions. Premier Sports also run a weekly lunchtime 'All children active' session.

Creative Curriculum - time travel

As part of our Creative Curriculum, 'Time Travel', we are looking forward to inviting Grandparents in, to talk about an artefact or photograph so that we can learn about the past. We will also be thinking about what advancements and changes might happen in the future. As part of the History curriculum, we will focus on the life of a significant individual from the past - Neil Armstrong. It is also part of the History curriculum to focus on 'changes within living memory'. For this, we will focus on Tim Peake when we learn about 'space' in our Science lessons.

Maths

This term, we will begin by focusing on 'place value', particularly focusing on two digit numbers and the different resources, pictures and jottings we can use to support the children's understanding. We then move on to exploring addition and subtraction, their inverse relationship and linking this to our place value knowledge. After half term, we will focus on multiplication and division and problem solving including all four operations. The children will take part in many mental maths activities, including counting in 2's, 5's, 10's and later on in the term, 3's. We encourage the children to talk about their reasoning for their Maths so that they become familiar with justifying and questioning their own ideas. This leads to a deeper understanding and embeds learning.

Science

For our first Science unit, we will be learning about 'materials'. We will be looking at the properties of materials and their many uses and also experimenting with changing materials. We will explore what sort of materials would work well for a time machine!

After half term, we will be learning about 'space' in relation to our 'time travel' topic. We will learn about the planets and stars as well as the atmosphere in space.

Throughout the term we will carry out experiments and investigations and begin to learn to ask and answer questions and increase our knowledge of scientific vocabulary.

Year 2 Curriculum letter Autumn 2018 'Time Travel'



MOLEs (Making Outdoor Learning Exciting sessions)

Our MOLEs learning will begin with the children working in the pond area in small and large groups to explore the pond habitats and the environment in and around the pond. We will then take our MOLE sessions onto the forest area on the school field where the children will be accessing a 'Forest School' approach to their learning. Learning transferable skills and getting to know and love their environment. This term, as well as play based child-led learning, we will focus on the changing seasons and how this affects the environment, and how different animals native to Britain, prepare for the colder weather.



The Creative Curriculum

We link as much of our learning as possible to our topic and the children are offered opportunities to explore their own ideas within this. The children will be taking part in a '**Stunning Start**' where they will be creating a full size time machine and as part of our '**Marvellous Middle**' we will be listening to Grandparents talking about one of their exciting memories from the past with an artefact or picture. For the '**Fantastic Finale**' we plan to create a time capsule to be opened by future Newdigate children!

R.E/PSHE

In R.E this term our two units will be; 'What is a Christian' and 'Why is the Bible an important book'? In the lead up to Christmas, we will focus on the significance of the birth of Jesus and why angels announced the birth of Jesus.

Our value this term is '**Love**', followed by '**Peace**' after half term. Please try to find the time to discuss these values with your child. This year we will be commemorating WW1 centenary and are planning a special remembrance service as a reminder of the importance of peace in our lives; <https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/remembrance/ww1-centenary/> In PSHE, we will be focusing on the theme '**Going for Gold**'; helping the children to set themselves achievable simple goals and feel a sense of pride when they reach them. They also learn to deal with the feelings of disappointment if they are not able to achieve them.

General Information

HOMEWORK

Children have reading homework every night. Please refer to your child's homework book for more information on the 'reading challenge'.

Homework comprises of spellings, times tables and short Maths activities to learn on a weekly basis. On occasions, other homework may include, learning a poem by heart, a discussion based homework (this will be topic or R.E related).

Homework will be given out on a Friday and is to be handed in the **following Thursday** for marking. If homework is handed in late, we cannot guarantee it will be marked that week due to ongoing after school commitments. However, we will endeavour to mark it the following week, if it is handed in on time.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

There will a Parents Evening during the Autumn Term – this will be an opportunity to discuss how your child has settled in to their new class and also to discuss your child's progress. However, if for any reason you wish to discuss your child before this, you are welcome to 'pop in' for a chat or will possibly be asked to make an appointment if further discussion is needed. **We politely ask that you wait for all of the children in class to be dismissed at the end of the day, before you request a chat.**

P.E KIT

Your child should have P.E kit in school. This comprises of a white P.E top, shorts, trainers, white socks where necessary and some jogging bottoms for colder weather. We do try to get the children outside as much as possible so appropriate clothing is vital. Their P.E kit stays in school until the end of the half term and we will give it to your child to take home for washing over the half term break.

TOYS

Toys from home are not allowed into school. They can cause a distraction to the children's learning and some children get upset that they don't have their toys in school with them as others do. If there is a special circumstance, we do occasionally allow a child to bring in a soft toy from home for a short time. This needs to be discussed first. We appreciate your cooperation with this matter.

