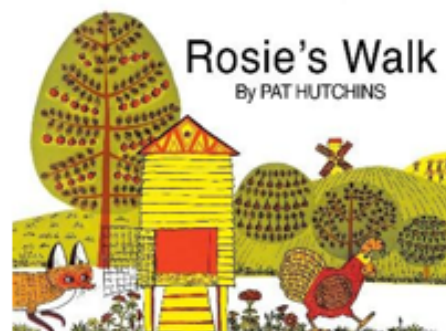


Nursery Newsletter Spring 2



Dear parents and carers,

In **R.E** our key question this half term is 'What is Easter?' where we will explore the Easter story. We will also be learning about Eid and will be very busy making decorations for both of these celebrations.

In **English**, our story this half term is "Rosie's Walk", which is a timeless classic. We have used the illustrations to predict the story's plot and learned all about hens and foxes. We will be talking about the characters, while building a bank of descriptive words to describe their characteristics, looks and feelings. We continue to map, step and retell the story from memory. Our new nursery rhyme is Jack and Jill, which we will use to help us with sequencing events and we are hoping the children will enjoy becoming Jack and Jill as we act out the story.

In **maths** we continue to recognise numbers and put them in order, as well as learning that the last number counted in the group is the total. During our story stepping we will be setting up all the same obstacles in the garden that Rosie encounters as the children learn positional language. We will also learn repeating patterns while creating our own as well as naming 2D shapes and using mathematical vocabulary to describe their properties.

We will be using our story to create lots of **art** including making props to help retell the story. Children will also be creating their own Kandinsky circles and learning about the artist as we focus on 2D shapes. Children will be painting and drawing flowers using a mixture of media including oil pastels and watercolours as we learn about spring.

For Understanding the World this half term, we will focus on the signs of spring, with children learning the steps to grow plants, learning about the lifecycle of a plant and what plants need to grow.

We will be continuing to help the children to manage conflict and explore feelings through story books provided by our Think Equal programme. We have already made some "Peace Wands" that look amazing and the children are able to name feelings and give them a colour.

The nursery team

Spring 2 Newsletter

Reception Class

Dear Parents / Carers,

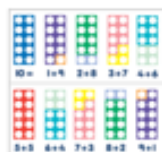
We hope that you had a lovely, yet restful half-term holiday. We are so happy to have the children back in school and cannot wait to re-commence the term with exciting new learning opportunities.

What are we learning about?

Maths

In Reception our focus is not solely on how high we can count, it is also on having an in-depth knowledge of things we can do with numbers. We are learning the composition of numbers, exploring how many different ways we can make the given number, as well as adding amounts and finding the difference. We will also look at 1 more and 1 less of a given number, making pairs as we explore odd and even numbers.

Following on, we will investigate and compare length and height and learn how to order and sequence time.



Literacy

This half-term in Literacy, we will be looking at a new set of story books and using them as a basis for our writing. The children will continue to build on their comprehension and retelling skills alongside reading and writing. Our key focus will be on supporting the children to read and write sentences independently. We will continue to work through our phase 2 phonic sounds recognising sounds and blending the sounds together to help our reading of words and to support our writing.



Religious Education

Our key question this term is, 'Why do Christians put a cross in an Easter Garden?' The Children will learn about the Easter story and use this as a springboard to help them to understand who Christians believe Jesus is and what he is like. They will explore what the cross means and why it is important to Christians.

Let's have an awesome term! From Mrs Amoah and the reception class team!

PE - Wednesday

Book Change - Wednesday

Understanding the world

The Children will be exploring the garden, planting, reading stories about new life, and discussing healthy eating. We will use all our knowledge from our healthy eating lessons and make healthy tasty snacks. We will also be encouraging the children to describe what they see, hear and feel whilst outside.

PSHE/Think Equal

In PSHE/Think equal we will be learning through story and discussion, how to understand and regulate our emotions, how to build healthy relationships and explore and celebrate our unique differences.

Year 1 Newsletter - Spring 2



Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you've all had a wonderful break and are raring to go! The children have settled back into school life enthusiastically and are looking forward to the new and interesting topics we will be covering this half-term; upon hearing what we will be learning in **maths** and **geography**, the children were so excited they actually cheered! To say that they are enjoying our new 'Cusp' curriculum and love maths is putting it very mildly.

This half term, our core text in **English** is '*Croc and Bird*' by Alexis Deacon. This week the children have been learning about different types of eggs, how they differ in size, and which animals hatch from eggs. In addition to this, the children have been using their prediction skills to predict what will come out of the eggs in our class story. Over the course of the term, we will use our core text as a springboard to support a variety of writing, including recounts, letter writing, book reviews and fact files. Our grammar focus this term will be - punctuation, expand noun phrases, and trying to ensure that we use past and present tense correctly and consistently. Please look out for these when supporting your child with their writing at home. In **phonics** we are continuing to focus on phase 5 sounds.

In **maths** this term we will continue to develop and secure our knowledge of place value, with a specific focus of numbers within 50. Towards the latter part of the term, the children will learn about length and height, as well as mass and volume. There will be lots of practical outdoor activities, combined with fluency activities to embed addition and subtraction knowledge from last half-term. We will continue to encourage the children to explain and reason how they got their answers and work on problem solving tasks to deepen their knowledge in maths.

In **RE** our key enquiry question is, '*Why does Easter matter to Christians?*' We will be recognising that Incarnation and Salvation are part of a '**big story**' of the bible. Hearing stories of Holy Week and Easter from the bible and recognise a link with the idea of Salvation (Jesus rescuing people). The children will be encouraged to reflect on what is the *real* meaning of Easter for Christians, and to think, talk and ask questions about whether the story of Easter is only a message for Christians, or whether it can provide some insight to all about sadness, hope and heaven.

In **science**, we will be learning about animals, including humans. The children will learn how to identify and name a variety of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. They will learn how to identify common animals that are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores, and will describe and compare the structures of a variety of common animals. In **geography**, the children will be learning about location knowledge. Building on our previous knowledge of locating and identifying the four countries and capitals of the United Kingdom, the children will deepen their knowledge of maps, via introduction to compass points and link these to the seven continents and the five world oceans.

If you have any questions about your child's learning, then do please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Miss Jacob and the Year 1 Team





Year 2

Spring 2 Newsletter

Welcome back everyone, it has been lovely to be back at school and to see all the children again. We hope that you all had a great break and that the children are ready for another term of jam-packed learning!!!



What are we learning this half term?



English

This half term the children will be using the story of Billy and the Beast and Rapunzel as their core text. We will be reading both texts slowly over the term and unveiling the stories bit by bit! Rapunzel has a twist compared to the original version and we won't be spoiling that for the children.

We will continue to practice letter formation with daily handwriting sessions and improving reading with weekly/twice weekly guided reading sessions. You can also help by reading on Bug Club or reading children's books for children who have finished the books on Bug Club.

The children will continue to learn new spellings and grammar to prepare them for their SATs in May. We will also be running intensive phonic interventions for children who still need some support in this area! Please do ask any questions about how you can support in English at home.

Science

To start the term, we will be recapping our knowledge on materials and comparing what is alive, what is not alive and what has never been alive. We will then move onto a new topic of Plants and discover how seeds germinate and what happens when bulbs sprout. Children will have the opportunity to observe plants growing and to record their findings.

R.E.

We will be answering the key question of 'What Do Christians Think God is Like?' by using the parable of 'The Lost Son'. We will look at forgiveness and explore some of the key messages from the parable. The children will also think about forgiveness from their own point of view and when they might find it hard to forgive someone.

Maths

The children are learning all about multiplication and division, focusing on sharing and grouping equal sets. Children will write multiplication and division sentences, using 2, 5 and 10x tables.

We will test the children on their times tables each week and revisit previous learning so that the children have a strong understanding in these areas.

Geography

In Geography, we will be comparing a small part of the UK to a non-European location - London and Nairobi. Children will explore where in the world Kenya is, and explore the human and physical features. To complete their learning, children will identify the similarities and differences between London and Nairobi.

Home learning will be sent out each week, please support your child with this.

Please remind your child to bring their reading record to school every day. Thank you 😊

Year 3 - Spring 2

Take a moment to step outside and stand quietly and still. Turn off all your technology and try to forget the modern world. Imagine this place 5000 years ago. What would you have seen? Head back to pre-historic times (it's a long time ago) to gather berries or hunt down dinner. Learn how the people of Britain developed over thousands of years, from the Stone Age to the Bronze Age to the Roman invasion. What tribal tales will you have to tell?

In **Maths** we will be continuing our learning of measuring length. We then learn what is meant by perimeter and how we measure perimeter of a shape. After this, we will be exploring fractions, learning what the numerator and denominator mean, finding fractions of amounts and shapes and learning how to add fractions together. Finally, we will be looking at mass and capacity where we will be looking at units such as grams and kilograms and how to measure on scales.

In **English** this half term we will be reading 'The Stone Age Boy' written by Satoshi Kitamura. The children will be writing their non-chronological report about the Stone Age using the information given by the book as well as from further research they have engaged with. They will then be writing their own narrative, imagining they are the boy who walked into the Stone Age.

In **Science** we will be exploring plants where we will be investigating the parts of a flowering plant and what they do. We also will be looking at how leaves make food for plants, how water moves through plants, what is the purpose of a flower and what pollination is. There will be various different investigation that will help children gain a deeper understanding.

In **History**, we will be finishing off our learning of the chronology of the Stone Age, Iron Age and Bronze Age. We will then be moving onto **Geography** where we will be learning about Maps and fieldwork skills using human and physical geography. We will be using compasses and learning about the 8 points of a compass,

In **RE**, we will be exploring the question *What is good about 'Good Friday'?* whilst reading the Easter Story and learning about what Christians believe happened.



Learning at home:

Every Thursday, a reading comprehension, spellings and times table practice sheet will be given out so please continue to work with your child/children at home on these. They will have a spelling and times table test on the following Thursday.

In addition to their **PE** sessions by West Ham coaches, the children will also be going swimming on a Friday afternoon. Please ensure they have the appropriate kit in order for them to take part.

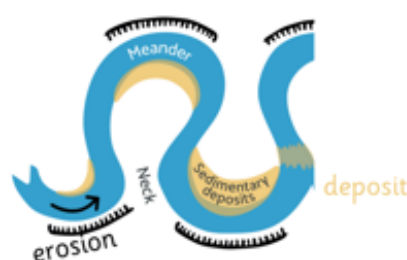
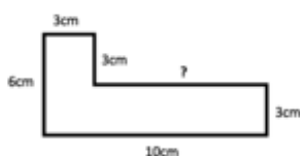
If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to ask!

Miss Atiya and the Year 3 Team

Year 4 - Spring 2 Newsletter

Dear Families,

This half-term our main text is *The Demon Dentist* by David Walliams. In **English**, we will use this alongside our digestive system knowledge from last term to help us to write letters of complaint and create leaflets to persuade young people to look after their teeth. In **Maths**, we will complete our block on Length and Perimeter, before moving on to Fractions. In **Science** we will be learning all about food chains. We will recap prior learning, focusing on each role in food chains and which categories living things are sorted into before constructing and interpreting our own food chains. In **Geography**, we will be exploring Rivers, looking at their features before studying our own local river. In **R.E** we will be pondering the question 'Is forgiveness always possible for Christians' where we will explore what the word forgiveness means before evaluating a variety of scenarios.



Suggestions for parents/carers:

- Times tables |
- Practise spellings
- Continue daily reading

Important reminders

Please note that we will **no longer be swimming** at Poplar Baths on Friday afternoons. Instead we will have PE on Tuesday and Fridays with the West Ham coaches.

Finally, please don't hesitate to arrange a meeting to talk to us to discuss any points or queries.

I hope you, like us, are looking forward to a brilliant half term as we head towards Easter.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Cullen and the year 4 team.

Year 5 Newsletter - Spring Term 2

Maya Civilisation



In **Maths** this half term, we will be introducing ourselves to decimals and percentages, applying our existing knowledge of fractions to our new knowledge and converting between them. We'll be reading, writing, ordering, rounding and comparing numbers with up to three decimal places. Then, we'll move on to a unit on Measurement, where we'll look at perimeter and area. Finally, we'll become statisticians and read different kinds of tables and draw our own line graphs.

In **English**, we will immerse ourselves in the beautiful graphic novel, 'Rain Player' by David Wisniewski - a tale of bravery, kindness and determination. The class will be exploring instruction-writing techniques, continuing to write our own persuasive texts!

In **RE**, we will be focusing on 'Salvation' for this term's Christianity unit, leading us up to Easter and examining the Easter story. We will be exploring the key question: 'What did Jesus do to save Human Beings?' and we will look at key moments in Jesus' life, using Biblical passages to help us answer our focus question. We'll also research some influential people through history who have made sacrifices for what they believe in.

As **Scientists**, we will be starting the unit 'Living things and their habitats', which will involve comparing the life cycles of different types of animals, and seeing how animals and plants reproduce.

In **History**, we will be learning all about the Maya Civilisation - where they lived; significant events in Mayan history; important inventions; and an examination of what happened to their city-states. As part of our **Geography** focus, we will be doing 4 by 6 figure grid references, practising our map skills.

We will be continuing with our Philosophical thinking this half term (P4C) and will use a range of stimuli to guide us to devise our own questions for class discussions, centring on the theme of fears and worries. This will help us to deepen our thinking skills and increase our confidence with sharing our ideas and understanding everyday concepts.

Ideas for home learning:

- O Find out about Mexican wildlife and fauna.
- O Research Maya hieroglyphs and symbols, then write your own short message to a friend.
- O Research songs related to Mexico.
- O Go to a supermarket and find foods imported from Mexico.
- O Design and build your own Maya temple using junk materials.
- O Make a Mexican skull and decorate it

The children will be given a weekly English comprehension and Maths slip as well as their weekly spellings, which they must practise ready for the spelling test on Fridays

PE will continue for Year 5 twice a week (Tuesdays and Fridays) as swimming lessons have come to an end. The Year 5 team are very much looking forward to the Spring 2 half term; if you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to ask!

Miss Dooley and Ms White ☺

Year 6, Spring 2 Newsletter

Welcome back to the start of another half term in Year 6. It is strange to think that we are already half way through Year 6 and that the SATs are edging even closer now!

This half term will involve plenty of preparation for the SATs which will be taking place from **Monday 13th May – Thursday 16th May.**



In **English** the children will be using the text 'Wonder' by R.J. Palacio as their core text. The story centres around a child who is born Treachers-Collins Syndrome and will allow the children time for lots of though provoking discussion and will lead to writing information texts, writing in role and writing letters.

We will of course be practising comprehension and SPaG ahead of May. Please also ensure that your child practises their weekly spellings.

Maths will focus on the children learning about decimals, percentages, fractions, algebra and shape & position.

The children will also be practising different skills that they have learnt throughout the year which they can then apply to their SATs Maths papers.

Please do encourage the children to keep using TTRS and to complete the weekly arithmetic practise papers.

With it being the run up to Easter, the children will be answering the following big question in their **R.E.** learning: 'What difference does the resurrection make for Christians?'

This unit of learning will start by looking at Jesus' resurrection and will then move onto looking at different Easter traditions and its meaning to Christians.

We will also be looking at the impact of Jesus' resurrection on the world we live in today and the impact of Jesus' teachings.

Science this half term will see us complete our learning on living things and their habitats before the children move on to learning about evolution.

In **History**, we will complete our learning on the Windrush Generation before starting our Geography unit where the children will learn about mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes.

The children will continue their learning of French, Computing and Performing Arts each Thursday from Junior Jam.

Reminders:

Please remember that Year 6 now have **swimming** every Friday afternoon. This is a compulsory part of your child's learning and they will need to bring their kit with them each Friday.

Booster takes place each Monday after school until 4:30. Please make sure your child attends if they have been asked to and if you would like your child to attend then please speak to the Year 6 team.

Please support your child with their home learning, this is important in helping them prepare for their SATs. Home learning includes comprehension, spellings, arithmetic, TTRS and reading each day.