

# Spring Term Newsletter 2024

## Year 3 & 4 - Red Kite Class

Happy New Year! We hope that you had a lovely Christmas and New Year. We are so excited to welcome everybody back. We hope you are as excited as we are to get started. This term we have some really interesting topics we will be covering.

### Literacy

In our writing this half term we will be using a great range of engaging texts to write in many different styles. We will begin by writing an explanation text of a life cycle based around the Varmints story. We will then write a fantasy narrative based around the Our Town story. After half term we will start learning about setting descriptions before writing our own based around Wonka World. Our final piece of writing before Easter will see us create a persuasive information poster.

### Maths

In maths this term, we will be focusing on multiplication and division and fractions. We will develop our understanding of various tables and begin to use written strategies for multiplication and division.

We will then apply our knowledge to support our understanding of fractions as we find fractions of amounts and add and subtract fractions..

**The children will be expected to use TT rockstars to practise their times table knowledge we will work weekly on this in school.**

### Reading

In Reading this term we will be reading 'Varjak Paw' by SF Said. We will be studying the characters and plotline in depth and use our VIPERS skills to discuss the book.

**V = Vocab, I = Inference, P = Predict, E = Explain, R = Retrieval, S = Summarise**

The children will also complete a stand-alone reading comprehension lesson once per week.

**Children will continue to earn merits and rewards for reading. Every Friday they will have the chance to appear on our reading board. Please remember any book they are reading counts!**

**Bronze = 3 reads per week**

**Silver = 4 reads per week**

**Gold = 5 reads per week**

**Platinum = 7 reads per week**

**The children are expected to sign their reading record each night when they read and hand it in each morning.**

### Science

In Science this term, we will be learning all about States of Matter. We will learn to compare and group materials according to whether they are solids, liquids or gases. We will learn that some materials change state when they are heated or cooled and be able to identify and name these processes as melting, freezing, evaporating or condensing.

### Music

In our music lessons we will explore the language of music through the inter-related dimensions of music. Deepening our knowledge of the inter-related dimensions and extend our musical vocabulary. The children will take inspiration from poetry, art and music and use graphic score to record ideas.

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### RE

Our focus in RE this term will be to understand how and why do people show their commitments during the journey of life. The children will describe what happens in ceremonies of commitment (e.g. baptism, sacred thread, marriage) and say what these rituals mean and make simple links between beliefs about love and commitment and how people in at least two religious traditions live (e.g. through celebrating forgiveness, salvation and freedom at festivals) They will also identify some differences in how people celebrate commitment (e.g. different practices of marriage, or Christian baptism).

### Geography

In Geography, the children will learn about the world and how it is represented on maps. We will discover the different countries and capital cities of Europe as well as recapping the countries and cities of the UK. Children will specifically focus on Italy and will learn the key human and physical features of the country before focusing on the region of Campania. Children will learn about plate tectonics, earthquakes and volcanoes. Children will then use their knowledge to compare their own region in England with Campania and establish similarities and differences between the two.

### PE

This term our PE days are Wednesday and Friday and so the children will need to ensure they have the correct equipment in school on these days. Our units of work for Spring term 1 are Dance and OAA. During Spring term 2 we will be studying Hockey and Tag Rugby.

### Computing

Our computing lessons this term will focus around Animation and then focusing on video editing and the use of internet research.

### PSHE

Our PSHE lessons this term are focusing around keeping ourselves safe and our rights and responsibilities.

### Art

In Art this term, we will describe the difference between a tint and a shade. We will mix tints and shades by adding black or white paint. The children will then use tints and shades to paint an object in 3D and try different arrangements of objects for a composition, explaining their decisions.

### DT

In DT this term we are going to be designing and making an electric poster with a working circuit. We will explain what 'information design' is and understand its impact, considering what could happen if we had no signage, posters, or written communication in public places of interest.