

Oak Curricular Letter

Spring 1 2021 - Conflicts

Dear Parents and Guardians,

May I start by wishing you all a Happy New Year. Although different for us all, I hope you managed to have both a peaceful and happy time over the festive period. I would normally start by saying welcome back after a lovely end of term break and tell you how well the kids have settled back into their school routines. I guess you'll have to be the judge of the latter this time. May I also pass on my sincere thanks for the support that you have given the school during these last few unprecedented months. We have always said that school and parents need to work together, this has certainly been on display over the last few months and we will continue to work together as we navigate through this challenging period. From what I have seen and heard on Zoom, Seesaw and social media, the children are doing absolutely brilliantly, once again, in their role as 'stay at home super heroes'. Not only are they playing their part in this national effort but, they are doing so with great positivity, resilience and superb humour too. Mossy Lea, you continue to wow me with your faultless attitude and perseverance - keep it up! You are doing yourselves, your family and your school proud.

The rest of this letter would normally outline our learning over the next half term and detail what we have in store. This letter is not too different, in that it will outline themes and topics we will be focussing on in our Maths and English Zoom sessions over the next half term, as well as the Seesaw activities set in the afternoons. There are also suggestions and ideas of resources and activities you may want to dip in and out of if you wish. Please refer to the timetable that has been sent out for the structure of online learning and also the Homework Menu for a range of ideas. Over the next half term, please remember, 'If it works for you, it works for me!'

The Half Term Ahead

Science
Investigating
Living Things

RE
Sikhism

History
Conflicts
through
history

PE
Fun Fitness
Zoom with
Coach Mayers

Music
Linked to
History

Computing
Coding using
Purple Mash

Art
Linked to
History
topic

TOPIC

This half term we are exploring conflicts throughout history. We will start by visiting the Anglo-Saxons and learn about King Alfred the Great's battle with the Vikings. We will then move onto Roman history and learn about the warrior Boudicca. Next, we will study Viking weapons and armour. For our local history lesson, we will be finding out about the War of the Roses. We will finish off by learning about the Battle of the Somme during World War I and then the Battle of Dunkirk during World War II. Some of our English, Art work and Music will be linked to these topics.

LITERACY

In our English Zoom sessions, our first unit will be linked to Myths. We will be working towards writing our own stories about an unlikely hero/heroine, based upon 'Arthur and the Golden Rope' by Joe Todd-Stanton.

Later in the half term there will be a non-fiction unit linked to the Battle of Britain, looking at recounts and information texts.

We will finish the half term exploring poems on a theme/with a structure and writing our own Viking themed Kenning poems.

We will continue to look at spelling patterns and rules within our English Zoom sessions. Also attached to this letter is the list of statutory words for Year 3, 4, 5 and 6, you could work on learning with your child. Maybe pick five a week, at the appropriate level, and practise at home.

MATHS

This half term we will continue to work through the Maths curriculum in our daily Zoom lessons.

Blue group will start with Multiplication and Division - revisiting 2, 4 and 8 times tables, multiplying and dividing 2 digits by 1 digit and dividing with remainders. This will be followed by a unit on Money and will finish with a Statistics unit - pictograms and bar charts.

Red group will focus on Multiplication and Division all half term - they will learn how to multiply and divide by 6, 7, 9, 11 and 12. They will begin to understand mathematical vocabulary such as 'quotient' in relation to division. They will understand the difference between sharing and grouping and they will understand the commutative law in multiplication. They will also solve problems involving multiplication and division.

Black group will join the St. George's Zoom lessons and will initially continue with decimals and measurement.

This learning can also be consolidated over the next half term using the activities from the Homework Menu and Mymaths. Mymaths automatically sets a deadline when work is set but please ignore these. Mymaths work can be completed at any time irrespective of the deadline set and I will upload more activities as we progress through the half term. In addition, children can use the White Rose Maths Challenges <https://whiterosemaths.com> to consolidate their learning. Children should also continue to practise their times tables on Timestable Rockstars. There are also some great songs and videos for learning times tables on the BBC bitesize website - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/supermovers/times-table-collection/z4yv6v4>.

Zoom and Seesaw



Throughout the next half term, I will continue to use Zoom and Seesaw to teach, set work and mark work. The children used Zoom and Seesaw brilliantly at the beginning of last half term and I'm sure will do so once again. There will be a daily Maths and English Zoom session and foundation work will be set on Seesaw for the afternoon sessions (please see the timetable).

I will check Seesaw daily and respond to any of the children's uploads. Kids, continue to upload your responses to the activities, but also remember to upload anything else you have been up to, I'd love to see how you are keeping busy. If anyone is struggling with Seesaw or to access the work please get in touch and we can sort this out for you. Using help@st-georges.lancs.sch.uk

Homework

A homework menu has been sent home alongside this curricular letter - a norm for both us and the kids in this very uncertain and unprecedented time that will again help provide a little structure. Look at the homework menu as just that - a menu. A menu for you and your child to peruse and pick what you fancy. As ever, be creative and imaginative in what you decide to produce and share your end results on Seesaw.



Helpful Resources

Here are a collection of resources and links. Again, the idea here was to create a bank of helpful ideas that you may want to use to support and consolidate learning throughout the half term. At this time, there are a huge number of sites, companies and educational organisations releasing educational content and this is far from an exhaustive list but will provide you with support if needed in addition to the Zoom lessons and the activities set on Seesaw.

Purple Mash at <https://www.purplemash.com/login/> - Login using personal login details which can be found on the sticker in your child's Homework Book.

BBC Bitesize at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

Oak Academy at <https://www.thenational.academy/>

Robin Hood Learning Projects at <https://www.robinhoodmat.co.uk/learning-projects/> - This is a great site packed with ideas for learning projects tailored for specific year groups across the foundation subjects.

BP Educational Services at

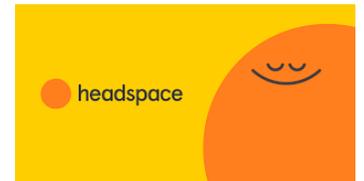
https://bpes.bp.com/?utm_source=NSP&utm_medium=PSQM&utm_campaign=BP02&utm_content=PSQM1 - A brilliant site for STEM challenges and activities you can have a go at home.

Look We're Learning at <https://www.lookwerelearning.com> - Full of ideas ranging from art and craft to designing a timetable. There is a brilliant list of 40 Spring Science ideas here.

Science Sparks at <https://www.science-sparks.com/category/key-stage-2-science/> - Loads of ideas for quick and easy science activities.

David Walliams at <https://www.worldofdavidwalliams.com> - If you're a fan of David Walliams and his books then take a look here. Packed with activities and ideas linked to his stories.

Headspace



Headspace is a fantastic resource that I would like to share with you. There are loads of mindful exercises to help sleep, reduce worry and stress, feel positive, and exercises for kids to also cultivate appreciation and kindness. It really is a brilliant resource and one that should be maximised during this time of uncertainty and potential worry. I love it. Give it a try!

I would like to reiterate, what Andy said in his letter; lots of people may be feeling stressed and pressured at the moment, but that is something we want to avoid. If whatever you are doing at home is working for you, then it is working for us. Get logged onto the daily zoom sessions for Maths and English, remember Mr. P's 2pm assembly and have fun completing the afternoon Seesaw activities. Most importantly, stay safe, stay healthy and stay socially distant. I can't wait to see everyone once again!

Additionally, if you need any support, assistance or guidance please do send me a Class Dojo message- I will always do my best to help.

Many thanks,

Mrs Antonella Greenhalgh

Year 3 and 4 Statutory Spellings

accident	caught	eighth	heard	minute	possible	strange
accidentally	centre	enough	heart	natural	potatoes	strength
actual	century	exercise	height	naughty	pressure	suppose
actually	certain	experience	history	notice	probably	surprise
address	circle	experiment	imagine	occasion	promise	therefore
answer	complete	extreme	increase	occasionally	purpose	though
appear	consider	famous	important	often	quarter	although
arrive	continue	favourite	interest	opposite	question	thought
believe	decide	February	island	ordinary	recent	through
bicycle	describe	forward	knowledge	particular	regular	various
breath	different	forwards	learn	peculiar	reign	weight
breathe	difficult	fruit	length	perhaps	remember	woman
build	disappear	grammar	library	popular	sentence	women
busy	early	group	material	position	separate	
business	earth	guard	medicine	possess	special	
calendar	eight	guide	mention	possession	straight	

Year 5 and 6 Statutory Spellings

accommodate	category	determined	forty	marvellous	programme	soldier
accompany	cemetery	develop	frequently	mischievous	pronunciation	stomach
according	committee	dictionary	government	muscle	queue	sufficient
achieve	communicate	disastrous	guarantee	necessary	recognise	suggest
aggressive	community	embarrass	harass	neighbour	recommend	symbol
amateur	competition	environment	hindrance	nuisance	relevant	system
ancient	conscience	equipment	identity	occupy	restaurant	temperature
apparent	conscious	equipped	immediate	occur	rhyme	thorough
appreciate	controversy	especially	immediately	opportunity	rhythm	twelfth
attached	convenience	exaggerate	individual	parliament	sacrifice	variety
available	correspond	excellent	interfere	persuade	secretary	vegetable
average	criticise	existence	interrupt	physical	shoulder	vehicle
awkward	curiosity	explanation	language	prejudice	signature	yacht
bargain	definite	familiar	leisure	privilege	sincere	
bruise	desperate	foreign	lightning	profession	sincerely	

