



# Curriculum Newsletter

Bramham Shadwell Federation  
Class February-March 2024



All our learning in class this half term will be focused around the question:  
**'How did people treat each other in the past?'**

## English

- This half term we will begin by looking at a range of books about pirates. The children will be using amazing adjectives to write a character description.
- We will then be exploring writing non-chronological reports. The children will be identifying the features of a good report before finally writing their own report on Antarctic explorers.
- We will continue to focus on using capital letters and appropriate punctuation and the children will also be reminded about neat handwriting and ensuring the relative size of their letters is correct.
- The children will also be learning to make plurals correctly using 's' and 'es' suffixes.
- In phonics, the children will revise all Set 2 and 3 sounds and start to learn about alternate digraphs for spelling.
- We will continue to practise the spelling of Year 1 high frequency words.



## Maths

- The children will be looking at numbers to 40 and consolidating their understanding of place value
- They will be solving addition and subtraction word problems using the strategies they have already learned.
- They will continue to develop their mental maths skills, specifically number bonds to 20.
- They will build upon their knowledge of place value to aid their mental addition and subtraction skills.
- We will then move on to multiplication by looking at equal groups and doubling.
- We will also begin to investigate division by grouping and sharing.

### How can I help / information for helping

- Continue to share and enjoy books with your children at home. Discuss how the story is constructed – who are the characters? What is the setting?
- Discuss new words you come across in the books you read – are they adjectives, verbs or nouns? What do they mean? How are they spelt? What else could the author have used?
- Listen to your child read their school reading books and please remember to write a comment in their reading record so we know to change their book.
- When your child is writing at home, please encourage them to use the correct letter formation (if you need a letter formation sheet, please let us know).

### How can I help / information for helping

- Play counting games with your child.
- Pose practical maths problems – we are going to see Grandma on the 28<sup>th</sup> but today is the 19<sup>th</sup>; how many days until we go?
- Always ensure your child is pronouncing their numbers correctly – 'teen' and 'ty'.
- Practise counting in 2s, 5s and 10s.


### KIRF Targets – Spring Term 2

- Know number bonds to 10
- Use number bonds to solve addition and subtraction problems to 10.

Topic	Science	P.E
<p><b>Focus is:</b> Antarctic Journeys of Exploration, in particular Captain Robert Falcon Scott</p> <p><b>Skills / knowledge to be developed:</b> This half term we will be learning about the golden age of Antarctic exploration in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. We will focus on the life of Captain Robert Falcon Scott and his two journeys to Antarctica. Children will learn about Scott's ships and the type of equipment his expedition used, the purposes of these expeditions and also about the ill-fated "race to the South Pole". They will also be able to compare these expeditions with modern day Antarctic explorers such as Captain Preet Chandi.</p>	<p><b>Focus is:</b> Materials</p> <p><b>Skills / knowledge to be developed:</b> We will be continuing to learn about different types of materials and their properties. This will link with our history topic as we compare the materials used then and now.</p> <p>At the end of term the children will be completing a science based DT project, making a book using a variety of materials.</p> <p>We will continue to look at seasonal changes, in particular how day length varies through the year.</p> <p><b>Applied through:</b> Research and scientific investigation. DT project.</p>	<p><b>Focus is:</b> Gymnastics and Dance</p> <p><b>Skills / knowledge to be developed:</b> We will be completing our gymnastics unit before moving onto dance. The children will be learning to use their bodies to interpret a piece of music and creating dance sequences individually and in small groups.</p>
<p><b>How can I help / information for helping</b> Look at pictures of Captain Scott's expedition and talk about the equipment they are using and clothes they are wearing, comparing them to modern day items. Look at Antarctica on a globe and discuss the route from the UK to Antarctica. If you have photos from trips to the seaside, try to spot boats in them and discuss how they are different to the types of ship used by Captain Scott. If you happen to find yourself in Dundee, you can go and visit Scott's ship "Discovery".</p>	<p><b>How can I help / information for helping</b> Discuss what different items are made of and talk about their properties. We have introduced words such as opaque, transparent, waterproof, absorbent etc – can your child find materials which have these properties? Notice seasonal changes in your local environment.</p>	<p><b>How can I help / information for helping</b> Please ensure your child comes to school in their PE kit every Wednesday. Thank you.</p>

Music	PSHE / MindMate	R.E.
<p><b>Focus is:</b> Composition and Percussion</p> <p><b>Skills / knowledge to be developed:</b> This half term the children will be working with a specialist music teacher to compose a piece of music using a variety of instruments.</p>	<p><b>Focus is:</b> What do we put into and on our bodies?</p> <p><b>Skills / knowledge to be developed:</b> The children will learn about what can go into our bodies and how it can make people feel and what we can put on our bodies. They will also learn how to respond in situations where they are unsure about a substance.</p> <p><b>Applied through:</b> Discussion / Circle time / debate</p>	<p><b>Focus is:</b> Festivals / What does it mean to belong?</p> <p><b>Skills / knowledge to be developed:</b> The children will be learning about Mother's Day, Holi (a Hindu festival), Ramadan and Easter. They will also continue to learn about belonging – to different faiths and churches.</p> <p><b>Applied through:</b> Discussion / Circle time / debate</p>

<p><b>How can I help / information for Helping</b></p> <p>Listen to a variety of music with your child. Encourage them to sing along to their favourite songs and to clap out the beat.</p>	<p><b>How can I help / information for Helping</b></p> <p>Please let us know if you have any concerns about your child's mental well-being. Talk about the benefits and dangers of medicines. Spot danger symbols on medicines and household items. Look out for berries and plants in the garden and discuss what is edible and what is not and what to do if you are unsure.</p>	<p><b>How can I help / information for Helping</b></p> <p>Talk about any festivals your family celebrates. If you pass or visit a church or mosque, talk about the different parts of the building you can see.</p>
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<b>Homework</b>	<b>Any Other Information / Dates for the Diary</b>
<p><b><u>Ongoing Homework</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Reading:</b> We would encourage all children in KS1 to read for 15 minutes twice a week (<b>please log what they have read in their reading record</b>)</li> <li>• <b>KIRF target:</b> See Maths</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Maths / English Homework</u></b></p> <p>Homework is sent on a Thursday evening and will be alternated between Maths and English. Please return it on a Tuesday.</p> <p><b><u>Spelling Homework</u></b></p> <p>Every Friday the children will be sent home with a spelling practice sheet. We would like children to practice these spellings using a look, say, cover, write, check approach and to return them the following Friday. The children will then have a low pressure spelling test in phonics and their score will be sent home on the top of their old spelling sheet.</p> <p><b>Please encourage your children to discuss their homework at home in order that they develop the skills of explanation and reasoning.</b></p>	<p><b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March</b> – FOSS Mother's Day Shop</p> <p><b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March</b> – Class Photographs</p> <p><b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March</b> – Parent Drop In</p> <p><b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March</b> – Parent teacher consultations meetings</p> <p><b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March</b> – Rev Lottie's Easter assembly in school.</p> <p><b>Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March</b> – Class One trip to Ledston Estate</p> <p><b>Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March</b> – Last day of term.</p> <p>Please ensure that your child has a <u>named</u> water bottle in school every day. They must remember to take it home every evening to wash the bottle and bring it in to school already full. This will ensure that the bottles are kept clean and germ-free for the children's use each day.</p> 

Thank you, as always, for your continued help and support. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us or make an appointment at the office to arrange a phone call after school.

Mrs Barrett, Mrs McNeill & Miss Greenwood 😊