



English – Reading & Spelling

Much Ado About Nothing: For our first half term, the whole school English focus will be centred on learning about the Shakespeare play, Much Ado About Nothing – we will explore the plot, the characters, and ways it can be performed. There will be lots of opportunities for fun drama activities and building confidence for speaking aloud.

We expect the children to be reading at home five times a week, where possible to an adult. We request that each time your child reads, they record this on 'Go Read'. Please encourage children to log their own reading, independently. This will help with the transition to secondary school, where they will have to manage and mark off their homework using an app.

New spelling words will be issued every Friday and tested on the following Friday. Please support your child in learning these spellings each week.

English – Writing, handwriting, grammar and punctuation

The children will continue to develop their joined writing, developing their own legible style of handwriting. We will be developing the children's higher-level punctuation and grammar skills in our English lessons. Writing tasks will be based around the play 'Much Ado about Nothing' and will include a wide range of genres including descriptions, playscripts, persuasive writing and reports.

Maths

The children will be focusing on decimals and percentages this term. They will be making connections between fractions, decimals and percentages and solve problems involving all three. Later in the term, they will be focusing on algebra and ratio. On a Friday, with Mrs Saunders, they will be focusing on measurement and converting units before moving onto perimeter, area and volume. They will continue to have daily arithmetic practise as well as lots of SATs style questions to help them prepare for their SATs in May.

Science

In Spring 1, we will be learning all about the human body focusing on the circulatory system. Children will also learn about the importance of a balanced diet and the benefits of regular exercise. In addition to this, children will learn about the harmful effects of alcohol and cigarettes. In Spring 2, we will be learning about light and investigating its different properties. We will be finding out how it travels into the eye and the different parts and functions of the eye. Children will also have the opportunity to make their own periscope.

Other Curriculum Subjects

Our topic is: **A Local Study of Bishops Itchington to answer the inquiry question “Why is Bishops Itchington here rather than over there?”**

History/ Geography: The children will be learning about the history of key buildings; their origins, purpose and impact on the lives of people in the village. They will investigate why the village is situated in this location, how it has changed and developed over time, making links to prior learning about the Industrial Revolution. They will identify and explore the lives of significant people who lived in and shaped the village. As geographers, children will be learning more about the location of the village, the geographical features of the quarry which determined the location of the village and the development of industry in the local area; they will develop map reading skills including use of the 6-digit referencing of Ordnance Survey maps and learning to draw scale maps.

RE & PSHE: In PSHE we will be using our Jigsaw program and looking at ‘Personal Goals’ and ‘Celebrating Differences’ In RE, we will be exploring the question: Is it better to express religion in arts and architecture or in charity and generosity?

PE: Children will have PE on a **Tuesday** and **Thursday**. On a Tuesday we will be outside, weather permitting, working on basketball skills and on a Thursday the children will be doing dance with Mrs Saunders in the hall. Please could children come to school, dressed in PE kit on both these days.

Art & Design: Children will be studying the artwork of Lowry, famous for his emotive representations of his local area, its people and its industry. Children will learn about this emotive artist and draw inspiration to create their own sketches and paintings of Bishops Itchington.

Design & Technology: In Spring 2, children will be completing a food technology unit.

Computing: Children will continue to develop their skills as they use a range of computer applications including Word and PowerPoint within the context of their topic work and will begin to use digital platforms to create short films and presentations.

Homework

English – given out on Tuesday; to be handed in by the following Monday

Maths – given out on Friday; to be handed in by the following Wednesday

Spelling – given out on Friday; spelling test the following **Friday**

Reading –5 times a week and recorded on ‘Go Read’

If you do have any worries or concerns, please do speak to us. We are also contactable on SeeSaw so please make sure you have a SeeSaw account for Buckingham class.

Mrs Daly, Mrs Saunders and Mrs Wines

