

Welcome to Griffin Class

Welcome back! We are so looking forward to working with the children after a very sunny summer holiday. Right from the very start of the year, we would love the children to get into the habit of reading every day. This is so important and will make a difference to your child's progress and well-being. If you would like to discuss with us ways of supporting your child at home or would like to share any successes or concerns, please do come in to speak with us, we would be really happy to help.

History

We will be historical detectives, exploring the concept of invasion and settlement through our focus on the Anglo Saxons. We will look at where these invaders came from and why they decided Britain was a good place to come. We will also explore how good they were in battle and even have a go at making our own helmets and shields. Looking at how artefacts help us to understand how the Saxons lived will also be a key feature of our learning - what will we find out?

**Be ready, Be respectful,
Be responsible.**

Invaders!



English

This term we will be using *Gorilla* by Anthony Browne to inspire our writing. We will begin by focusing on improving vocabulary and sentence structure whilst building up our narrative skills. We will be writing character descriptions, setting descriptions, identifying key facts and creating a fact file. These tasks will all build up skills necessary for our final writing outcome which will be our own animal adventure story.

Of course we will continue with our reading sessions, developing the children's ability to discuss texts and understand how they work, whilst providing lots of opportunities for them to read for enjoyment. Spellings will continue too, particularly focussed on using strategies to spell unknown words as well as learning and applying all the spellings expected of Years 4 and 5.

Science

In Science this term our unit will be 'Animals including humans'. The children will be learning the life cycle of humans, compare gestations of different animals and understand how the body changes.

P.S.H.E.

Our topic this term is 'Being in my World'. Here we will explore how we can further develop working as a class, improving on such as our team work and collaborative skills. The idea of democracy will also be focussed on and the children will have the opportunity to create their own class charter. Of course, a key element of this will also be to support the children in their transition back to school after the Summer holidays as they reconnect with friends and staff, encourage them to be positive in their learning and manage any anxieties or worries they may have.

Art/DT

Over the next two terms the children will be focusing on the key aspect of drawing. The children will be using drawing and graphics skills to create typography.

Throughout the terms the children will be exploring the art from Louise Fili, Grayson Perry, Paula Scher and Chris Kenny. These artists will influence and support their development. They will explore typography, create their own typography using their interests and make graphic powerful drawings. These lessons and features will build up skills and enable them to create a final piece. This will be where the children create a visual map, using symbols, drawn elements and typography to express themes which are important to them.

Maths

The focus for this term is on Place Value for Year 4 and Year 5. Both year groups will have the opportunity to ensure they understand the value of each digit - year 4 up to 10,000 and Year 5 to 1,000,000. They will have the opportunity to reason using their understanding and solve problems using a range of contexts. Right from the start of the year, learning of the times tables will be a key element of the learning, particularly for Year 4 and any practise at home will be most valuable.

R.E.

We will explore the New Testament with the children this term.

Computing

In computing we will start with e-safety before exploring what coding means in computing. We will use code to make a computer program, understanding what objects, actions and events are and using an event to control an object.

P.E.

PE will be taught on Tuesday and Thursday, when children should come to school in their PE kits. The main focus for this term will be **Functional Fitness and Basketball**, in addition to this, we will be completing the Daily Mile and have other active brain breaks throughout the day.

Music

We are very excited to be exploring Musical Structures. Musical sections that repeat or change can help create the structure, or form, of a piece of music or a song. We will be visiting a new song each week and we'll be singing our hearts out!