

Being safe, being respectful, being *our* best

## Earith Primary School: Curriculum Newsletter



**Class: Bluebell**  
**Term: Spring 1**

### **English:**

In English lessons, we will begin by reading Allan Drummond's '*The Willow Pattern Story*'. We will discuss how Koong Shee's feelings change throughout the story, as events unfold, and we will explore how the characters use direct speech and written notes to communicate with each other. Then, we will choose another plate pattern to use as a stimulus for our own narratives. Later in the half term, we will read '*Owen and the Soldier*' by Lisa Thompson. Drawing on examples in this thought-provoking text, we will create our own poems and newspaper reports. With a focus on spelling, we will learn about the importance of proof-reading our writing.

In addition to this, we will continue to have daily 'Guided Reading' sessions and 'Whole Class Reading' times, where we will learn to develop fluency and comprehension across different genres, as well as reading for pleasure.

### **Maths:**

This half term, we are learning about multiplication and division. The focus for Year 3s will mainly be on the 2, 4, 8 times tables, and revisiting 10s. The focus for Year 4s will mainly be on the 3, 6 and 9 times tables. The children will be using their knowledge of multiplication and division facts to solve problems.

We will also continue to develop our understanding of all of the number operations during our morning work (as soon as the children arrive at school) and during lesson starters.

### **Science:**

In our unit of learning on 'Sound', we will learn how sound is produced and how it travels. We will be looking at the parts of the ear and how they help with hearing. We will be learning the difference between pitch and volume.

### **History:**

Ancient China will be the focus of our history lessons this half term. We will consider the role of archeologists in finding and studying artefacts from the past, such as bronze artefacts and oracle bones from the time of the Shang Dynasty. We will learn that the Shang people used oracle bones to communicate with ancestors and deities, who were believed to send good or bad fortune and guidance to the living world. We will look at the hierarchy that existed within Shang society, with the Emperor at its peak.

### **Religious Education:**

Our learning will be led by the question 'Why is prayer important to Muslims?' We will learn that prayer is one of the five pillars of Islam. We will find out about the significance of the Quran as a guide for Muslims in their lives and in prayer. We will learn about the importance of prayer mats and that Muslims pray facing Makkah.

### **PSHE:**

In PSHE, we will be learning about financial capability. We will be learning about different ways to make money and how to keep it safe. We will be learning how to make informed choices around money and how to keep track on spending. We will be looking at how to spend money and keep to a budget, as well as thinking about charities and how they raise money.

### **DT:**

In DT, we will be learning to make 3D structures from 2D nets. We will be creating cardboard castles, including features such as towers, turrets, a moving drawbridge and a façade. We will discuss how to strengthen our structures.

### **PE:**

OUTSIDE: Our unit will be 'Outdoor Adventurous Activities'; we will develop our teamwork skills as we undertake various games, challenges and orienteering activities on the school grounds.

INSIDE: We will be working on the principles of balance, developing flexibility, strength, technique, control and balance.

### **Music:**

Our learning in our Music lessons will be focused on a wide range of songs with a focus on friendship. We will be thinking about how pulse, rhythm and pitch work together. We will be using performing notes C, G and E on musical instruments. We

will be exploring how to change the pitch in our voices as we perform our Friendship Song.

### **Computing:**

In Computing, we will be introducing children to the concept of sequencing in programming through Scratch. We will be making our own programs, using a selection of motion, sound, and event blocks.

Safer Internet Day 2023 will take place on the 7th of February, with celebrations and learning based around the theme 'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online'

### **Foreign Language:**

In our French lessons this half term, we will be learning the numbers to 31. We will also learn about days of the week, months of the year and birthdays.

### **Big Questions for the Half Term:**

How is sound produced and how do ears help with hearing?

How do we make money and keep it safe?

How can we know what society was like in Ancient China?

Why is prayer important to Muslims?

How can we use our bodies to balance?

How can we use teamwork to overcome an obstacle?

How can a structure be strengthened?

How can songs tell a story?

Why is sequencing in computing so useful in the real world?

### **Big Vocabulary for the Half Term:**

Multiply, divide, group, share, times, product, array

Material, dimension, 2D, 3D, net, tab, strong, stiff, stable

Shang Dynasty, artefact, archaeologist, Bronze Age, social classes, Emperor

Allah, Shahada, Mosque, Prophet, Quran, Salah, Makkah

Scratch, programming, blocks, commands, code, sprite, costume, stage, backdrop

Principles of Balance, flexibility, strength, technique, control

Pitch, rhythm, tempo, pulse, coda, composition,

Wages, salary, employment, credit card, charity, donation, loan, interest, savings

### **Other Information:**

#### **\*Teachers\***

Mrs. Barber: Monday and Tuesday

Mrs. Thompson: Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

Mrs. Ray: French

#### **\*TAs\***

Mrs. Thurston (Tues and Weds a.m.) and Mrs. Watson (Friday a.m.)

#### **\*PE\***

Our PE days are:

Tuesday (outside kit needed) and Wednesday (inside kit needed)

\*Reminders\*

Please continue to hear your child read at home and encourage them to practise their times tables.