

General Reminders

- If your child is absent from school for any reason, please telephone us (01442 252972) on the first day of absence. If you do not notify us the absence will be unauthorised.
- Please make sure that you advise the School Office promptly of any changes of address, telephone numbers, emergency contacts etc.
- Please ensure your child is on the playground at 8.40 a.m. to ensure a prompt start to the school day. KS2 parents should leave the playground at 8.40 when the bell is rung.
- Pupils should not be absent from school for any reason other than illness. If, however, you need to take your child out of school due to EXCEPTIONAL circumstances, a request form must be completed. These are available from the School Office. Mrs Washford Mower will consider requests on an individual basis on behalf of the Governing Body.
- All children should bring water bottles to school with them each day.
- Remember to check our website for latest news, photographs and other information.
www.nashmills.herts.sch.uk

Nash Mills C of E Primary School



Year 5

Curriculum Newsletter

Spring Term 2019

Teachers: Ms Krebs

Year 5 Spring Topics

Our Changing World

We will study some of the many ways in which the world around us is changing. From coastal features and erosion to changes in the international boundaries of Europe; there are many factors at work. The children will learn about the structure of the United Kingdom and how its shape and geography have changed over thousands of years. They will explore how landscapes change and how human activity affects this. Pupils will also have the chance to predict the future and look at what might change again in their lifetimes.

The Victorians

This term our topic is the Victorians. We will be studying what life was like for people under the reign of Queen Victoria. The children will learn about the workhouse and the differences between the lives of poor and wealthy people. They will look at what a Victorian school was like and compare the lives of Victorian children with those of today. Our class novel is 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty and linking to this, we will examine the history of Barnardo's.

English

Reading and writing

Our foci this term are:

- Suspense and mystery
- Instruction texts
- Persuasion texts.
- Spoken word poetry/rap

Speaking and listening

- Pupils will continue to discuss their ideas with a partner, and in small groups, across all areas of the curriculum.
- They will adapt a performance for an audience, linked to the focus on dramatic conventions. They will use and recognise the impact of theatrical effects in drama, e.g. stage directions.
- They will reflect on how working 'in role' helps them to explore complex issues.
- They will give, and respond to, constructive criticism.

Spelling

Pupils are taught to recognise and use spelling conventions. Our spelling test will be held on a Thursday. Pupils will receive their new spellings to learn for the following week on a Thursday.

Mathematics

Numeracy concepts and skills are introduced and revised throughout the year. This term we are focusing on several aspects of maths as follows:

Number: Fractions

Recognising, calculating and reasoning about equivalent fractions.
Ordering fractions with similar denominators.
Finding common multiples and the lowest common multiple.
Converting improper fractions to mixed numbers and vice versa.
Understanding the relationship between tenths, hundredths and thousandths and their decimal equivalent.
Solving division problems where the remainder is expressed as a fraction.

Number: Decimals

Investigating thousandths and representing them using resources and diagrams.
Reading and writing decimals.
Comparing decimals to tenths, hundredths and thousandths.
Multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000.
Rounding decimals.

Number: Percentages

Investigating the relationship between decimals and percentages.
Finding equivalent percentage, fraction and decimal amounts.
Finding 1% and 10% of amounts.
Applying understanding of percentages in real life contexts.
Calculating mode, mean, median and range of a group of numbers.

We will also be revisiting different aspects of maths from the autumn term.

Times tables – Children need to develop quick recall of times tables and corresponding division facts as this will help them in many areas of maths. Please support your child with learning these number facts as well as halves and doubles of numbers.
<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

Helping your child at home

It will help if you support your child to prepare in advance for topics; seek out library books, talk with them about these and encourage them to do some internet research. They should also become personally responsible for organising resources such as equipment and sports kit.

Support them in organising homework, for instance in identifying and, where possible, keeping to a suitable time to complete it. Remind them that it is their responsibility to decide whether the standard to which it is completed is reasonable. Please feel free to get them to repeat work more accurately if it is careless or rushed and to plan / draft work first where appropriate.

Encourage reading of a range of types of literature even if they have a strong preference for one; however praise them for any efforts made to read alone. Occasionally ask them to read aloud to you, for instance, their completed English homework, as this encourages use of expression, builds confidence and helps to check that they have proof read it accurately first!

Try to ensure that they generally speak in complete sentences rather than relying on gestures and single words. Enjoy a discussion with them on a current news item and encourage use of suitable vocabulary rather than lazy alternatives.

Cook together; let your child weigh ingredients, read measuring scales accurately and convert units.

'Time' is a topic which children often struggle to master. Ask them to calculate time in hours and minutes in everyday situations. Encourage them to read and interpret timetables for themselves.

Practise using the key vocabulary so that your child can use it in the correct context, knowing its meaning.

Religious Education

Children will consider ideas of right and wrong demonstrated by the lives of Founders/Prophets, and their own and others' responses to these. Pupils will then examine the variety of lifestyles in different religions, understand how these stem from the lives of the Founders/Prophets and begin to describe similarities and differences within and between religions.

They will also learn how Sacred Texts influence the beliefs and values of individuals and faith communities. Children will describe how Sacred Texts are used in worship and daily life. We will consider the meaning of different types of religious literature (e.g. myth, stories/parables) found in them.

Physical Education

Sports lessons will take place on a Monday and Wednesday.

Sports lessons will be based on gymnastics and further leadership and multi skills.

Weekly circuit training is designed to build fitness, stamina and an understanding of the health benefits of exercise on our bodies.

Our daily mile will also continue this term.

Personal, Social and Health Education

The initial focus is being able to recognise worth in ourselves and others, and consider our strengths and weaknesses as learners.

Then, we will identify the usefulness of setting goals, moving on from setbacks, making responsible choices and learning to be accountable for our choices.

Music

Pupils will study and perform songs from 'Oliver!' by Lionel Bart. They will also compose a song based on our class novel, 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty.

Children will also explore rounds where they will develop their ability to sing and play music in two (or more) parts.

Art

To complement our topic on The Victorians, we will be looking at the work of William Morris, a famous designer from the Arts and Crafts period. Children will be closely examining some of his textile and wallpaper designs and interpreting them in their own way to produce a variety of prints.

Key Vocabulary

You can help your child by discussing core vocabulary which will be encountered each term to help build confidence and familiarity.

English

Maths

fraction	rounding
numerator	percentage
denominator	equivalent
multiples	calculate
tenths	relationship
hundredths	convert
thousandths	
decimals	
half	
quarter	
fifth	
third	
improper fraction	
mixed number	

Science

variable	predict
conclusion	systematic
factor	reliable
evidence	control
filter	sieve
evaporate	condense
dissolve	separation
recovering	solution
suspense	saturated
solute	solid
liquid	gas / gaseous
reversible	irreversible
chromatography	

Other

Victorians	scavengers
workhouse	Victoria
pauper	Albert
destitute	William Morris
mourning	Charles Dickens
hard labour	
Barnardo's	
slate	
Ragged Schools	
textile mills	
waifs and strays	
governess	
orphan	

Science

Children will learn about the properties of materials and how they change when mixed, heated or cooled. They will learn about reversible changes e.g. dissolving and condensing, and that non-reversible changes result in new materials. They will be taught to separate solids by dissolving, filtering and sieving and how to recover solids by evaporating. They will use this knowledge to solve practical problems that require separating mixtures.

We will consider the work of research chemists such as Spencer Silver and Ruth Benerito – and the development of modern super-sticky and super-thin materials.

French

Through a mix of spoken and written language, children will be taught familiar topics related to the seasons and eating out. They will learn names for types of food and express their likes and dislikes. They will order food in a café set-up using 'Je voudrais' Quel est ton fruit préféré? Mon / Ma fruit préféré est le/ la...

Pupils will learn the names of the different seasons and to describe the different weather conditions.

Il y a quatre saisons. - There are four seasons.

Quel temps fait-il? - What's the weather like?

Il neige. - It's snowing.

Il fait très chaud. - It's very hot.

Il pleut beaucoup. - It's raining a lot.

Computing

We will continue to use the Hertfordshire scheme of work for ICT.

This term our topic is called 'Robotics and Systems' in which we will study automation and continue to develop our use of a programming language; we begin programming devices, controlling inputs and outputs. We will learn how to sequence a set of instructions in order to get a desired outcome. The children will be using online freeware called Scratch and will be eventually making their own computer game for Reception children.

Useful Websites

www.bbc.co.uk/learning

There is a facility on this web page to type in a key word and relevant clips will be offered from 3000 programmes!

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/websites/4_11/site/numeracy.shtml

A range of activities for children of all abilities.

www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/

Interactive activities and links on a wide range of topics.

www.bbc.com/bitesize/subjects/z39d7ty

French resource, short cartoons and songs to consolidate learning.

www.bbc.co.uk/newsround

This is a current news website with special reports, videos, quizzes and in-depth articles specifically created for children.

www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button

Quick fire questions on number bonds, doubles, halves, times tables, division facts and square numbers against the clock.

