

Year 3 Curriculum Letter - Spring 1 - 2024

Our theme for Spring Term 1 is:

Ancient China

Our main foci are:

- To identify what the Shang Dynasty was and the impact it had on Ancient China
- To discover the origins of beliefs in Chinese culture

Our theme will last for:
6 weeks



English:

Ancient China had so many wonderful facts and we will be using a range of non-fiction books to discover them! We find out all about Lady Fu Hao, the brave woman who was the military General. We will also be learning about the Shang Dynasty and using our findings to write our own newspapers about the Zodiac Story. During this topic, we will also be writing a setting description of the The Jinshanling section of the Great Wall of China, in Hebei Province.



Mathematics

The Shang Dynasty created a number system many years ago. In Mathematics, the children will be looking at this number system and using it to support multiplication and division. Also during the half term, we will be focusing on these areas of Maths.:

- One to two step problems
- Comparing and ordering fractions
- Finding fractions of different amounts and shapes
- Recognising and finding equivalent fractions
- Investigating statistics and bar graphs.

By now your child will have received their Times Tables Rock Stars log-in details. If you cannot locate them, please let your child's class teacher know. On Times Tables Rock Stars, children can compete against others or practise on their own. Please encourage them to log-in regularly to support their learning.

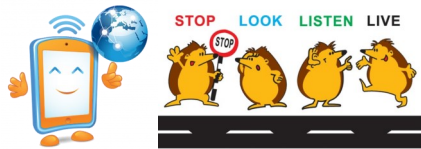


Personal, Health, Social and Community Education

As part of our 'No Outsiders' scheme of work, this half term we will be focusing on the book: 'The Hueys and the New Jumper' by Oliver Jeffers.

Behaviour and Safety

For behaviour and safety, we will be learning about road safety and the Green Cross code. Children will also take part of Safer Internet Week.



French

Bonjour! This half-term, we will be learning how to talk about the various activities we take part in. We will also be learning the different modes of transport and even how to sing some nursery rhymes!

P.E.

In physical education lessons, we will be learning dodgeball! We will be refining our aim and improving our defence skills.

Children must bring their P.E. kit in every Friday. Earrings must be taken out for the lesson and appropriate footwear must be worn such as plimsolls. As the weather brightens up, please bring both indoor and outdoor kits.

History

During this topic, we are going to be discovering who, when and where the Shang Dynasty were. We will find out about the beliefs of the people living in Ancient China, find out about their culture and how it differs from our own and finally we will think about how the Shang Dynasty has affected modern China.

Geography

We will be using Google Earth to discover the importance of where the Shang Dynasty settled and compare this to some other Ancient Civilisations. Were many of them based around rivers? How did this impact on the way they lived their lives?



Music

The pupils will learn the 'Dragon Song' including the lyrics and how to play it on the glockenspiel. Children will discuss the meaning of the words and practise singing using different pitches and volumes.

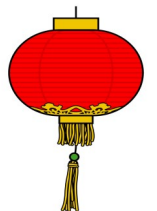
Art and Design Technology

During this topic, we will be studying bronze and jade sculpture and how sculptures can be made by casting or carving. We will have a go at carving and how these practises were used to create art in Ancient China.

Religious Education

During our R.E. lessons this half-term, we will be exploring the beliefs of Sikhism and we will be focusing on:

- Guru Granth Sahib
- Places of worship
- Food for all
- Festivals



Science

Did you know that both fireworks and shadow puppets originated in Ancient China? We will be finding out about light and shadow this half-term and we will learn about the dangers of the sun, the names of different light sources, reflection and how we can make shadows longer or shorter.

Shared home learning:

Please encourage your child to read 10-15 minutes everyday. We encourage Year 3 children to gain some independence so we do encourage your child to write in their Reading Journal. Our homework for this half term is 'Ancient China' and we will be holding our homework showcase for the children on Friday 2nd February.

Dates for your diary

- Mon 8th Jan—Inset Day
- Weds 17th Jan—History Day
- Mon 22nd Jan—World Religion Day
- w/c 29th Jan—First Aid Week
- w/c 5th Feb—Children's Mental Health Week
- Tues 6th Feb—Safer Internet Day
- Weds 7th Feb—Turtles Family Assembly
- Thurs 8th Feb—LGBT+ History Day
- w/c 12th Feb—Story Telling Week

