

This term we will be covering:

In Mathematics

- Counting
- Place value
- Addition and subtraction
- Shape and pattern



In English

Skills we are learning this term

- Writing sentences with the correct punctuation, full stops and capital letters
- Using adjectives, similes and alliteration

Writing Process

- Dragon descriptions



In Science

- Looking at different properties of materials
- Bending, twisting, pulling etc.



In Art

- Pencil skills
- Drawing detailed sketches of dragons
- 3D models of dragons using clay
- Artist study on MP Robertson
- Producing a painting in the style of his work

In Music

- Discussing a piece of music (music appreciation)
- Singing tunefully and playing instruments
- Musical vocabulary
- Listening to a rhythm, clapping it back
- Composing



Castles and ... !



We hope that you have had a fantastic summer holiday and we would like to welcome you back to the new school year. This term our topic will be called 'Castles and ... !' We will launch the topic by discovering an egg asking, "**What's inside?**" We would like the children to be excited and eagerly anticipate the egg hatching. We want them to try and work out what might be inside (so please do not spoil this surprise by mentioning dragons!) However, you may want to take time to discuss with your child which animals actually lay eggs. We are very excited about this topic as there are so many fun things to do and learn. We are lucky to have Bramber Castle on our doorstep, which will also provide us with an opportunity to explore the history of the local area.

To inspire the children and support their learning, we hope to have some special visitors - a **reptile expert** will visit us to help launch our topic as well as the author **MP Robertson** who will teach us how to sketch a perfect dragon and who is our artist study for the term. There will be a voluntary contribution of approximately £10 to cover the visitors and further details will be sent shortly. The visitors will help to provide learning opportunities and hands on experiences for the children.

On the other side of this sheet, you will find a topic web, which shows the main areas of learning the children will experience during the term. We hope that you will find it a useful starting point for supporting your child in their learning and understanding.

Phonics

The children will be organised into phonic groups at the beginning of term and phonics learning will start shortly afterwards. You will also receive a weekly homework letter which will tell you what letter sounds your child is learning each week so that you can practise spotting these for example finding objects containing these sounds, playing simple games using these sounds, word



ADVANCE NOTICE

Homework

Once your children are settled back into school, homework will be sent home weekly on a **Friday**, homework should be returned by **Wednesday** of the following week for marking. Homework will consist of:

- Weekly phonics
- Practice of multiplication tables 2, 3, 4, 5, 10
- A fortnightly maths activity (up to 15mins)
- A fortnightly English/topic based activity (up to 20mins)

The homework letter will also keep you informed of what is happening in the classroom and any special events that are taking place.

Reading

We use the Collins Big Cat books and children are heard to read 3 x weekly in school. They then have access to the book that they are reading in school on the Collins E-library. The children should be able to read this book fluently when they read it at home. Remember to read daily with your child if you can and please **remember to write** in your child's reading record. Please ensure that these are in your child's book bag, as your child's class teacher will also write a comment in the reading record weekly. We really want these books to be a two-way dialogue. Children will need to bring their book bags to school every day, and you will need to check them for letters when they come home!

There are many opportunities for reading fun and interesting books around this topic, both fiction and non-fiction books, but it does not have to be a book! You can read information about castles on the Internet, search for poems about reptiles etc. Please encourage the children to change their reading books regularly at school.

PE

The children will need to wear PE kit in school on PE days which should include plimsolls or trainers. Children can wear a school jumper or a **plain** navy blue top and **plain** navy-blue leggings or jogging bottoms. Hair should be tied back and micropore tape should be provided for children who have pierced ears. We would prefer children to wear a t-shirt that represents their house colour.

PE days

Kenya –Tuesday and Wednesday

Iceland – Tuesday and Friday

Italy – Monday and Wednesday



In Computing

- Logging on and off the computers independently
- Keyboard and mouse skills
- Online Safety
- Coding and algorithms
- Graphics package



In RE and PSHE

- Me and my world
- We are all different
- What can I learn from religious stories
- Christmas – why did God give Jesus to the world?
- Christmas activities and Christmas Nativity



In Physical Education

- Ball skills
- Dance including dancing like dragons using flags and ribbons
- Beefit

In Technology

- Planning and making models from recycled materials of castles

In History

- Learning about the Monarchy
- Family trees
- Comparing King Charles III and King Charles II

In Geography

- Looking at castles around the UK
- Comparing and contrasting castles