

## Curriculum Update - Mr Stoddart

English	This term, we are writing a newspaper article. Children will learn about the six key features of a typical newspaper article and the technical language that a professional journalist would use. Children will look at a range of upto-date and archived newspaper articles to analyse the language features.  All children are encouraged to read a wide range of books, including myths, legends and traditional stories, modern fiction, fiction from our literary heritage, and books from other cultures and traditions. Reading comprehension revolves around giving more detailed answers and looking for clues to give a justifiable opinion on a subject matter within the text.  Pupils will practise handwriting and be encouraged to increase the speed of it, so that problems with forming letters do not get in the way of their writing down what they want to say. Children who are working towards the expected standard, yet not writing using cursive script, will be identified and benefit from handwriting intervention.
Maths	During this term, there will be an emphasis on shape, data and measure. The prior learning is assessed and children work through averages, graphs, charts and time. There will be a growing emphasis on reasoning and this will equip all pupils with the skills that they need to solve multi-step word problems.  We will be regularly revising the formal calculations methods and work closely with the children to fill gaps in knowledge and understanding of fractions, decimals and percentages.
Science	Electricity - building on their work in year 4, pupils will construct simple series circuits, to help them to answer questions about what happens when they try different components. All pupils will learn how to represent a simple circuit in a diagram using recognised symbols. In addition, children will be taught to take the necessary precautions for working safely with electricity. OBA will be conducting lessons for the children using specialist equipment in a safe and invigorating environment.  Living Things and Their Habitats - This unit will teach the children about the classification of living things, including micro-organisms. The children will build on their work in Year 4 by sorting animals into groups based on their similarities and differences. They will extend their learning to find out about the standard system of classification first developed by Carl Linnaeus, choosing an animal and researching its classification. The children will have the opportunity to design their own 'curious creature' and classify it based on its characteristics.
Topic	Our topic for this term will be 'The European Union'. Children will look at the history of the EU and the idea behind its inception. Thoughts will move to the recent events revolving around 'Brexit' and what the future holds for the UK since the referendum.

Computing	This term, we will continue to focus on e-safety - looking at how to use the internet safely and what we should do if we come across any dangers. We will be using the internet to collect factual information for our reports. After that, we will be looking into computer programming, using programmes such as Scratch.
PE	In Dance, this term, the children will be using a range of movements and patterns. In PE, the children will participate in a variety of invasion games. They will focus on the importance of team work and work on their kicking skills. Towards the end of the term the children will learn the skills to play netball.
French	Madame Lila will be teaching French every Wednesday. The children will get the opportunity to extend their vocabulary and learn 'Le fermier dans son pre' which is a traditional French song. They will also describe members of their family and be able to ask questions about their family.
PSHCE	In PSHCE this term we will be looking at new beginnings, new year resolutions, the importance of achieving your goals and the significance of making friends and lasting relationships.
Music / Performing Arts	The children will continue to receive monthly instrument lessons on a Monday where they will learn how to play more complex rhythms on instruments using fun sentences to keep in time; Use African and samba rhythms; Introduce up to three rhythms at once and play each rhythm on a different instrument. Play more complex rhythms using sentences. They will also continue to receive weekly singing lessons every Tuesday in assembly. During this time the children will be learning a range of notes and songs.  The children look forward to performing for you on a number of occasions this year, so that you can see the progress that they have made. Some children have volunteered to take part in the choir and will showcase their talents in a competition this term.