

Newlands Class Information

Church Walk CE Primary School

Spring 1 2026

Happy New Year!

Literacy

Our literacy work will be closely linked to our topic on the Romans. We will start by looking at the features of newspapers, leading on to writing our own based on the Roman invasions of Britain. After, we will write playscripts for shadow puppets that we are making in technology, based on the legend of Romulus and Remus. Daily spelling, punctuation and grammar sessions will take place, as will weekly guided reading and handwriting sessions.

Reading

Children will need to continue to change reading books when they come in to school in the morning. This may be every day or every few days depending on the length of the book. **Please read and discuss books with your child as often as possible at home. Even fluent readers benefit from someone listening to them read. Please make sure reading records are updated regularly at home and are in school every day.**

Maths

Daily arithmetic sessions will help the children to develop their mental maths and general arithmetic abilities. Maths lessons will focus solving problems, multiplication and division and measures, including perimeter. **Please continue to support your child at home with regular learning of times tables. Remember to use TT Rockstars and Purple Mash as additional learning resources at home.**

Science

In science we will be thinking about light. We will explore light sources, shadows, mirrors and reflection, sun safety. We will plan and carry out fair test investigations.

Computing

This half term children will be introduced to 2Cast, an audio recording tool in Purple Mash. Children will explore the features of effective audio books and work as a team to script, record and edit their own.

Many other aspects of computing such as word processing, research and using sound will be explored through other subjects.

Children can continue to develop their programming skills at home using Scratch and Purple Mash.

http://scratch.mit.edu/scratch_1.4/

P.E.

In P.E, we will be developing gymnastics 'key steps' skills and learning a sequence for this. Swimming will take place every Monday, this half term.

P.E will take place on Mondays and Tuesdays. Please make sure your child has the following items in school every day: Black pumps, black shorts and red T-shirt with school logo. Trainers for outdoor games are

preferred, and joggers/ leggings are optional whilst the weather is colder. Please put in a pair of socks if your child wears tights.

History

Key events and the influence of the Romans will be explored through artefacts, evidence and historical enquiry. We will explore life in Roman times, the attempted invasions of Julius Caesar, discover how the Roman Empire impacted on Britain, and find out about the army, soldiers and Hadrian's Wall.

Geography

To support our history work we will be identifying the location of Italy. We will compare Italy in Roman times to Italy now, by researching modern Italian culture and the physical geography of the country.

DT

To link with Science and History, in DT we will be looking at shadow puppets, and how light is used to create shadows. The children will use different techniques and tools to design and build a puppet.

Music

Music lessons will provide opportunities to develop skills in rhythm and pulse, tempo, use of patterns, repetition and contrast in music. Children will also learn how to read notation. Lessons will be based around the song 'Three Little Birds'. We will listen and appraise a range of songs, and use glockenspiels or other instruments to practise, compose and perform small parts. We will also create a soundtrack for the shadow puppet theatre performance, using percussion instruments.

French

In French we will be focusing on core vocabulary including colours, numbers, names of countries and days of the week. Children will practise their spoken French and use questions and responses to have a short conversation.

RE

We will be exploring different forms of prayer; we will reflect upon the different styles of prayer in different world faiths. We will compare how prayer is used in religious buildings and in the home.

We will explore how prayer is an expression of belief and commitment.

Homework

Children will receive homework every Thursday. This might be in the homework book or on Purple Mash. **It must be handed in by the following Tuesday at the latest, to allow for marking. If returned after this, it may not be marked before the next piece of homework goes out.**

Spellings will usually go home every Monday- the test will be the following Monday. **Please note that this is different to last term, when spelling tests took place on Tuesdays.**