

Springfield Information for Parents – Spring 2

Welcome back. I hope you have had a lovely half-term.

This term, we are continuing with our topic of the Middle East, with a particular focus on Baghdad's role in early Islamic civilisation.

Literacy

We will continue to read and explore the book 'The Boy at the Back of the Class' by Onjali Q. Rauf, which is a child's perspective on the refugee crisis, highlighting the importance of friendship and kindness in a world that doesn't always make sense.

We will further investigate character and setting, write story extracts and create news reports reflecting some of the key themes in the story.

SPAG- We will have weekly spelling, punctuation and grammar sessions linked to our other reading and writing work.

Class Reading- We will have daily 'reading fluency' sessions during which pupils will work in small groups with a focus text. These sessions will support development of reading fluency and text comprehension. We will also have daily 'quiet reading' sessions during which pupils will spend time reading for pleasure with a book of their choice.

Please could you continue to read with your child whenever possible and write this in their reading record. Children can also write in themselves when they have read independently.

Maths

We will begin by investigating the topic of 'Area, Perimeter and Volume', involving calculation of the perimeter and area of a range of 2D shapes and the volume of cuboids. We will then work on calculating with decimals and investigating the relationship between fractions, decimals and percentages.

Arithmetic- We will practise our arithmetic skills regularly and each week we will complete an arithmetic assessment which will be used to track progress.

Science

We will continue with the topic 'Living Things and their Habitats' in which we will investigate the life cycles of a range of plant and animal species. We will then move on to studying the topic of 'Forces'.

Computing

We will be planning and creating our own text-based adventure games. We will be using Purple Mash and the application '2 Code'.

History

We will be continuing to explore Baghdad's role in early Islamic civilisation. We will identify reasons why the early Islamic civilisation became a major power, investigate what life was like in early Baghdad and make comparisons between the Middle East of the time and Western Europe.

Geography

We will continue to learn about trade, including UK's trade links and about how and why some goods are imported and exported.

RE

We will be asking why Christians believe that Easter is a celebration of victory. We will consider how the Easter story fits into 'God's Big Story' using the book 'The garden, the Curtain and the Cross' by Carl Laferton and Catalina Echeverri. We will then explore Christian beliefs about Jesus' sacrifice, investigating how the events

and services that take place in churches during Holy Week and Easter reflect Christian belief that Jesus' death and resurrection was a victory.

PE

This half-term our focus will be on swimming. Children will be grouped according to their ability and will be developing their water confidence, their swimming strokes and life-saving skills. We will also complete our unit of work on netball.

DT

We will be designing and making soap and then developing appropriate packaging for the finished product. We will then evaluate our work against our design criteria and the views of others.

PSHE

We will be exploring how finances impact the way we live our lives. We will start by considering financial risk and how it can be avoided. We will also investigate how retailers try to influence our spending and how we can become 'critical consumers'.

French

We will be using the theme 'A school Trip' to develop our knowledge and understanding. It introduces vocabulary associated with travelling and journeys and includes sentences in both the present and future tenses.

Music

We will be deepening our understanding of how to use a DAW (digital audio workstation) to produce our own tracks. We will look at how we can use the studio software to programme layers of electronic instruments to develop a 'grime' track.

Art

We will continue to examine Islamic art, involving experimenting with colour, geometric patterns and different media to create independent compositions and a class collage.

Important Information and Class Routines

PE

PE days are **Mondays & Wednesdays, with swimming being on the Monday afternoon.** Please could you ensure that your child has their swimming kit and towel on Monday and a full PE kit in school on Wednesday.

Homework

The Homework Grid details a range of different homework activities to choose from. The expectation is that one piece is selected and completed by the Wednesday of each week. There may, at times, be specific homework activities to carry out during particular weeks. If so, these activities will be linked to a topic or a specific lesson. A note will be sent to inform if this is the case.

Weekly spellings will be given out on Friday with the test to be carried out the following Friday.

Walking Home

If your child is allowed to walk home on their own, please could you inform a member of Springfield staff.

Thank you

Mr Cross