



Conkers Corner

Spring 1



Dear Parents,
Welcome back and happy new year! We hope you had a great Christmas and enjoyed the break (and chaos!) Our new topic for this half term will be 'Media Makers' and we are looking forward to finding out how different medium can be used to create communication and artwork. We will also be exploring how important it is to put events in the correct order through programs on Purple Mash and in various stories.

Tapestry

We will be continuing to use Tapestry as our tool for recording the developmental steps for our Reception children so don't forget to check in and have a look at what they have been doing and add any pictures and comments of their achievements and activities at home.

Daily routines

We will carry out daily phonics, handwriting, speed sound recall and guided reading sessions which are all taught at age appropriate levels and are grouped.

Forest Schools

Forest schools will be on a Tuesday afternoon starting 14/1/20.

We have enough all- in-one suits for the children to wear over their uniform and coat, but please ensure your child has long trousers, a hat, gloves and boots/wellies. As it gets colder, an extra warm jumper would be a good idea too.

Teaching timetable

Monday: Mrs Milson

Tuesday: Mrs Milson

**Wednesday: AM Mrs Milson
PM Mrs Marshall**

Thursday: Mrs Mitchell

**Friday: Mrs Mitchell incl PE,
Mrs Stockill for French
and Mrs Marshall for Art**

Drinks and PE kits

This is a polite reminder for children to have their PE kits in school on a Friday. Also, please ensure your child has a named water bottle in school each day. If every child has a water bottle in school, we can remind them to drink more throughout the day in order to stay healthier and hydrated.

Reading books will be changed each Monday, Wednesday and Friday if your child has read their book 3 times.

Curriculum news

As we have a mixed stage class group in Conkers this year you will have noticed a change in the classroom layout. We have moved things around to create a practical working space along with the areas of provision required to give the EYFS a child led focus to the curriculum and provide Y1/2 children more flexibility to explore and extend their learning through more open ended experiences.

We will continue to enhance the areas of the classroom both indoor and out to reflect all the children's interests and give the adults opportunities to promote challenges towards the next steps in their learning.

Computing

As computers, we will be...

- ❖ following and creating simple instructions.
- ❖ considering how the order of instructions affects the result.
- ❖ drawing images on Ipads showing different parts of the story 'Unplugged' and typing sentences to go with each one.

Art and Design

As artists and designers we will be ...

- ❖ using the medium of print to explore images and textures.
- ❖ using a variety of media to create new effects.

PSHE

As **citizens** we will be...

- ❖ learning about the different aspects of keeping safe, including internet safety.
- ❖ focussing on the importance of different relationships such as the different families and family members that we have in our world.

English

As writers we will be...

- ❖ exploring various verbs in past, present and future tense.
- ❖ sequencing and retelling the short story of 'Unplugged' through drama.
- ❖ rewriting 'The True Story of the Three Little Pigs' from a different point of view.
- ❖ looking at narrative and retelling religious stories.
- ❖ writing a recipe for the perfect family (non-fiction).

At home: Please keep reading a range of genres/words with your child and recording it in their reading record. Also, please practise spellings, phonics and key words (spelling will be given on Mondays).

KS1

❖ Mathematics

- ❖ As mathematicians we will be....
- ❖ multiplying and dividing using numbers and signs by using objects to help us.
- ❖ looking at fractions and how to find a half, quarter and a third of shapes and objects.
- ❖ exploring measuring skills looking specifically at length and height. We will base our learning around ' maths through stories' and look at books such as: 'Titch' and 'Guess how much I love you!'

- ❖ **At home:** Practise multiplying and dividing in real situations, including sharing food at meal times, counting how many wheels are on 4 cars etc.

French

As French linguists we will be...

- ❖ learning the vocabulary for pet and farm animals.
- ❖ revising colours and numbers.
- ❖ reading and some even writing the words.
- ❖ developing children's pronunciation of the French words. We will learn how to express which animals we like and dislike.

RE

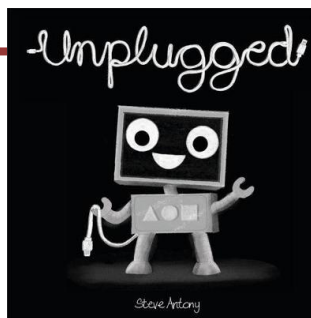
As **explorers of different religions** we will be...

- ❖ looking at 'why people believe' by retelling popular Christian Bible stories through drama and role play.
- ❖ looking at the belief and practices of Islam.

Music

As Musicians we will be...

- ❖ exploring pitch and duration.
- ❖ investigating different sounds to represent different materials and different characters.
- ❖ discovering how music can tell a story considering music from different composers.
- ❖ practising keeping a steady beat and copying simple rhythmic patterns.
- ❖ investigating how music can change our mood and creating compositions to represent moods.
- ❖ using some ICT in music this half term.



PE

As sports people we will be...

- ❖ learning the skills and tactics involved in the game of football and cricket.

EYFS - Understanding the World

As investigators we will be...

- Investigating materials and their properties and what they can be used for.
- Looking at seasonal changes and how this affects the weather, plants and animals.

At home:

Look at different media such as artwork and texts, and research the famous artists and authors using books and the internet.

Mathematics

As mathematicians we will be...

- recognising, ordering and using numerals 0-10+
- counting objects accurately and saying the number in a set

At home:

Practice counting objects
Notice and recognise numbers in the environment,
Encourage correct number formation and ordering.

Literacy

We will be...

- Exploring our new class stories
- Learning all the Phase 2 and 3 phonic sounds and how to blend them to read words and segment words for writing.
- Developing our letter formation and writing skills so that we can write our names

At home:

Vary the types of genre you read. Enjoy some poems, magazines, posters and stories and Non-fiction.

Practice key words.

Keep reading your reading books – **Please comment or sign their reading record book when you have read with your child. Once it has been signed 3 times, we will change Thanks**

Keep practising key words – reading and spelling and making sentences with them.

Physical

We will be...

- Focussing on our fine motor skills using pencil grip/control, scissor, pincers and buttons, etc.
- Continuing to work on our handwriting skills
- Thinking about keeping our selves healthy and safe whilst working outdoors.

At home:

Use small construction toys to help with fine motor skills

Practice correct letter formation

Practice safety at home

Talk about how you keep fit and healthy – keep a diary of what you have to eat. Is it healthy? Or daily routines like brushing teeth and hair, keeping clean and exercising.

Communication and Language

We will be...

- Developing our listening skills though stories, rhymes and circle times.
- Continue to develop our speaking skills through role play and reporting on things that interest us or things we have found out.
- Extending our vocabulary related to our topic and new interests.

At home:

Take part in role play. Enjoy sharing and retelling stories and rhymes.

PSED

As part of Leavening family we will be...

- showing care and sensitivity to other people in the class.
- focussing on the importance of different relationships such as the different families and family members that we have in our world.
- Using 'Growth mind set' to support being the 'best we can be' and have positivity to our lives.

EYFS

EYFS - Expressive Arts and Design

We will be...

- Exploring colours and learning how to use powder paint and creating patterns
- Listening to different sounds to show different materials and characters.

At home:

Listen to a variety of different music genres and see how the different types makes you feel. Look for interesting materials in the environment to create pictures or models. Use different coloured paper and card to create a collage.