

Year 2 Autumn Newsletter 2016

Welcome back to the Autumn Term! This year will be full of engaging activities with a lot of excitement to be had! As a school we consistently work hard to ensure every child at Coppermill is happy, engaged and challenged. Our classroom will be built on strong values such as respect, kindness and friendship. With an enthusiastic atmosphere and a strong level of team work, the children in Supernova will make wonderful progress this year.

Positive behaviour will be reinforced at all times to encourage children to independently make the right choices.

Our trip this term is: The Houses of Parliament

As a team we can work really well together to ensure that your child is happy, engaged and excited to learn this year. With your support, we look forward to a really positive year ahead!



Literacy

In Literacy we use a scheme called The Power of Reading which enables us to create wonderful and exciting ideas linked to the story books we are reading. As a class we will be looking at the books 'The Jolly Postman,' 'The Man on the Moon' and 'Traction Man.' Through the imaginative ideas in the story we will create writing such as letters, descriptive posters and narrative pieces. We aim to make Literacy lessons as engaging and creative as possible to create enthusiastic and keen learners.

Everyday children will take part in a 40 minute grammar lesson. They will be taught alternative spellings, how to effectively structure sentences and how to punctuate their work correctly. The children will be given a list of spellings each week to practise at home to consolidate their learning. We will be learning fun ways to remember tricky spellings! Remember to always use the Look-Cover-Write-Check method when practising with your child. Spelling tests will be every Monday.

Children are expected to read every day. They should also ensure that their reading log is completed when they take out a new book. Children have the opportunity to change their reading books every day. Each child is aware of their book band level and will be read to in school on a one to one basis to ensure their reading book is appropriate for their level. Always encourage your child to read at home and discuss what they liked and disliked about the book.

Here are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their literacy skills:

<http://www.educationcity.com>

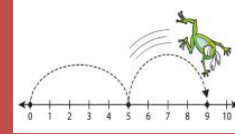
<http://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/english/>

<http://www.ictgames.com/literacy.html>



Mathematics



In maths this year the children will be consolidating their counting in multiples of 2, 5, 10 and 3. They will be learning how to partition numbers into tens and units as well as learning how to use a number line to add and take away (when finding the difference.) Year 2 will explore the properties of shapes, as well as problem solving involving time and money. Worded problems will be introduced and the four operations of add, subtract, multiply and divide will be practised throughout the year. In year two fractions will be explored in a fun and practical way.

At Coppermill we understand the importance of teaching maths in an engaging way. The children take part in various practical activities to develop a deeper understanding of complex problems. If you are helping your child at home always bear this in mind; use counting blocks to explore problems or consolidate fractions when sharing pizza!

Mental maths strategies will be taught each week and mental maths tests will be completed every Friday. This is something you can help your child with at home. You can also ask your child what the time is or if they want to help you pay for something using their knowledge of money.

Homework will be given out every Friday to be returned on the following Tuesday. If you ever have any questions or queries about the homework please feel free to ask me. It is very important to allow your child to work out the problems independently before asking for help so you can assess their understanding.

Here are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their maths skills:

<http://www.educationcity.com>

<http://www.mymaths>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/maths/>

<http://www.crickweb.co.uk/ks1numeracy.html>

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/maths/timestable/interactive.htm>

<http://www.ictgames.com/resources.html>

<http://www.topmark.co.uk>



Science

This term in Science, the children will be exploring Space, and how to keep healthy. Through both units, children learn about planets and the solar system, and why it is important to stay healthy through the food we eat and the exercise that we do!

Below are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their science skills:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/science/>

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/interactive/science>

<http://www.kidspot.com.au/kids-activities-and-games/science>



Humanities



Children will also take part in weekly philosophy sessions through our P4C (Philosophy for Children) curriculum. These help develop their questioning skills and encourage deeper thinking.

The Geography topic being taught is 'Where in the world is Barnaby Bear?' The children will learn about the United Kingdom. The first section will focus on London which links with our trip to the Houses of Parliament.

Below are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their humanities skills:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/geography/>

<http://resources.woodlands.kent.sch.uk/>



Computing

Here are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their computing skills:

www.thinkuknow.co.uk

www.kidsmart.org.uk

www.light-bot.com

www.code.org

www.scratch.mit.edu

www.kodugamelab.com



Art/Design & Technology

All the Art sessions are linked to the various curriculum areas. In the art sessions, children explore different art techniques such as sketching, collage, working with paints and pastels. The children will learn how to appreciate art through their classmates' creations.

The art topic being taught is 'Self Portraits' Children will also create various pieces of art based around their topic of Space.

Here are some ideas for websites for the children to practise their artistic skills:

<http://www.artsconnected.org/toolkit/index.html>

<http://www.disney.co.uk/disney-junior/art-attack/>



R.E.

Children will be studying Hinduism, particularly the story of the Ramayana – Rama and Sita. They will also learn about some Hindu beliefs and traditions such as the festival of Diwali.

Here are some ideas for websites for the children to learn more about this topic:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/religion/>
<http://resources.woodlands.kent.sch.uk/>



P.E.

Children will develop basic game-playing skills, in particular throwing, catching and hitting a ball. They will learn the skills of hockey, as well as athletic activities and gymnastics. We believe fitness is extremely important at Coppermill so each day the children will take part in five minute dance activities, as well as jogging around the playground.

PE day is Friday.

Please make sure your child has their PE kit in school with appropriate footwear and ensure all items of clothing are clearly labelled to avoid any confusion if items are misplaced.



Home Learning

Your child receives:

- Weekly Maths homework to be returned the following Tuesday
- Weekly spellings to be tested each Monday in class
- Daily reading at their ability level to be recorded in their Reading Record books. Children should read aloud to their parents or carers and discuss what they have read, to make predictions about a story and to explore ideas.

Homework is handed out each Friday.



General notices/requests

Queries, worries or questions

Please feel free to speak to me if you ever have a question regarding your child's learning. I aim to be in contact with parents as much as possible to ensure that you can help your child with their learning. Together we can ensure that your child is engaged, enthusiastic and making a wonderful amount of progress this year.

Please be aware that time at the end of the day can be limited, so if you need to discuss anything in more detail, please call the school office on **020 8520 6267** to arrange an appointment. Alternatively, you can email the school at admin@coppermill.waltham.sch.uk

Thank you for all your continued support. I look forward to an exciting year ahead!

Miss Jones and Ms Croitoriu