

GREAT HORWOOD C. of E. COMBINED SCHOOL

CONKERS' CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

YEAR 1/2 Spring Term 2012



We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy New Year!
This letter is to let you know what is happening in Conkers during the Spring Term.

ENGLISH

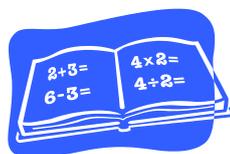


This term we will be looking at information texts based around our theme 'The Great Fire of London'. The children we be learning to organise text and will be creating their own information leaflets. They will be learning how to use labels and captions to help make their information writing clearer. We will also be improving our sentence structure by learning how to write longer more interesting sentences and developing our punctuation skills. We will be developing our story writing skills by taking a focussed look at the author 'Roald Dahl'. Our spelling work as usual will focus on high frequency words and spelling patterns. Phonics and Guided reading will continue daily and we will have regular handwriting sessions.

To help the children understand the life and work of Roald Dahl we have arranged a visit to the Roald Dahl's Childrens' Gallery on the 31st of January.

MATHEMATICS

This term we will be extending our learning by further developing our skills in calculation using a variety of methods. We will reinforce our knowledge of number bonds and improving our rapid recall of our times tables. In addition, we will be practising applying our mathematical skills to solve real life problems in number, shape, space, and measures. Mental mathematics continues to be an important aspect of our daily learning.



MUSIC

Mrs Ord will be taking the children for Music this term. They will be continuing to work on the scheme Music Express. They will be using different instruments to explore rhythm and will work together to compose their own simple pieces of music.

Information for you

- PE lessons are on Tuesday and Friday afternoons.
- Homework will be given out on Fridays to be handed in on the following Wednesday.
- Spellings will be given out on a Monday and tested on the following Monday.

SCIENCE

The unit that the children will be working on is Grouping and Changing Materials. Through this unit the children learn to distinguish between an object and the material from which it is made. They learn about some of the ways materials can be changed and that heating can cause changes which produce materials which are often useful.



Their experimental and investigative work focuses on; making suggestions of how to investigate an idea, making observations and comparisons and explaining their observations.



PE

In PE we will be doing a Dance Unit called The Cat.

In games, we will be concentrating on skills of throwing, catching and hitting a ball. We will work together to play different games using these skills and apply them to the games the children have invented.

Please ensure that your child's PE kit is in school and that every item of clothing is named to avoid confusion. Any practise at home for the children in getting dressed on their own would be greatly appreciated.



ICT

To start the term the children will be working on the unit Information Around Us. The children will learn that information exists in a variety of forms, including text, still and moving pictures, charts and sounds and that different media are used for different purposes. They learn that ICT can be used to communicate and handle information in a variety of ways.

Children should be able to apply what they have learned in this unit when they are looking for and presenting information e.g. when researching The Great Fire of London..

In the second half of the term the children will be learning how to use ICT to represent information graphically. They learn how to create pictograms and how to answer simple questions on the data shown in their pictograms.

PSHCE

We will be looking at People Who Help Us. In this unit the children find out about the people that help us in the community. Children consider the consequences of their words and actions for themselves and others. Children learn about the role of agencies in the community that help us, particularly the fire service to tie in with the topic theme 'The Great Fire of London'.

RE

This term our theme is what makes something special to someone? We will identify how some objects help people feel a sense of belonging to their religion. Also explore how religious beliefs and ideas are expressed through special objects.

CREATIVE CURRICULUM

Our theme for learning this term is "The Great Fire of London", an important event in British history that is beyond living memory. We will be linking this to looking at the life of a famous person who lived at the time and experienced the fire, Samuel Pepys.

The children will have the chance to compare then and now, to develop their sense of chronology and to use their research skills to find out about the past.

A great deal of our art work will be based on the idea of fire, warm colours, colour mixing, collage work choosing materials to represent fire.



WEBSITE

We will be using our new website to let you know what is happening in Conkers. All homework and letters will be published on the website. Parents are encouraged to add comments. Follow the link from the main school website or follow the link below:

<http://conkers.greathorwood.bucks.sch.uk>