

# GREAT HORWOOD C. of E. COMBINED SCHOOL CONKERS' CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

## YEAR 1/2 Summer Term 2012



The year seems to have flown by and it is hard to think that we are already in the summer term. This letter is to let you know what is happening in Conkers during this term.

### ENGLISH

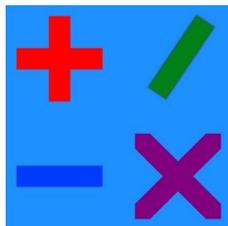


As part of our creative work we will be reading and writing stories about fantasy worlds, thinking carefully about how characters are described and how we can use adjectives in our writing. We are improving our writing of Non-Chronological Reports, ensuring our punctuation is correct in all of our writing. Some of our writing will be based on our themes of *Toys in the Past* and *The Olympics*. We will continue to learn how to read and spell high frequency words and learn different spelling sounds. 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.

As an extension to our work on Toys in the Past we are planning a morning visit to the Milton Keynes Museum

### MATHEMATICS

This term we will be furthering our learning by developing our skills in calculation using different methods. We will be applying our mathematical skills to solve problems in a variety of contexts; finding the important information in a question, deciding which calculation to do, carrying out the calculation and checking their answers. Mental mathematics and multiplication tables remain an important aspect of our daily learning.



### MUSIC

Mrs Ord will continue to take the children for Music. They will be working on the scheme Music Express. The children will explore classroom instruments and learn that instruments that make sounds in similar ways can be grouped into families. They create symbols that represent the various ways an instrument can be played and use these to help create a sequence of sounds.

### SCIENCE

The first unit that the children will be working on is Growing Plants. This unit introduces children to the idea of plants as living things which grow and change. Children should become aware of similarities and differences in plants.



In the second half of the term the unit is called Variation. Through this unit the children become aware of the huge variety of living things in their local area and of the difference between them.

### 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.

## PE

This term we will be improving our athletic skills in time for Sports Day! Our outdoor games will be field and striking games such as rounders and cricket.

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 *Understanding instructions and making things happen*. They learn how to sequence instructions, so that others can follow them, and to predict what will happen.

Children learn that machines follow instructions and that they need to be switched on and off, and controlled. They will recognise the need for accuracy, definition, and common language.

In the second half of the term the unit is called *Questions and Answers*. The children develop their awareness that there are different types of questions and look at how ICT can be used to find answers using different software.

## PSHCE

The children will be working on a unit called *Choices*. The children discuss their likes and dislikes and the difference between right and wrong.

## RE

In R.E. we will first be looking at *Special Occasions* in our lives, what makes them special and how we celebrate them. We will also be comparing how different religions celebrate their special occasions.

In the second half of the term the theme is *Belonging*. The children draw on their understanding of belonging and then relate it to how children are given a sense of belonging in different religions.

## CREATIVE CURRICULUM

Our first theme for learning this term is *Toys in the Past*. This unit looks at similarities and differences between toys today and toys in the past. It introduces children to the concepts of 'old' and 'new', and encourages them to think about the changes in their own lives and in those of their family or adults around them. It provides a wide range of opportunities for children to develop their speaking and listening skills.

Our DT this term will link to the theme of Toys in the Past as the children will be making their own Roly Poly toy and some children will be making a wind-up toy.



The theme of our Art work is *Mother Nature, designer*. The children make observations of natural objects and use their observations as the basis for textile design. They use their experience of fabrics to make a collage.

The theme for the second half of the term will be the Olympics.

## WEBSITE

We will be using our 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>