

PRIMARY 4 CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2020

LITERACY

Reading - Just before the October break we learned about the six reading strategies. The teacher taught us about each of the strategies using our modelling block text - The Butterfly Lion by Michael Morpurgo. This term, we are in the early stages of learning to apply these strategies more independently using our group novels and PM books.

Writing - Our next focus for writing is going to be looking at and writing narrative and recount texts. We will use our topic knowledge of the 1970s to inform the majority of our writing.

Spelling - We have now begun to look at our P4 programme of spelling where we focus on one phoneme (sound) for part of the week and then we switch to looking at high frequency words. Currently we are looking at the sound ' -ay'.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Over this coming term, we will be learning about how to stay **safe**. This will involve learning about being safe in the community, being safe with other people and being safe online. We will specifically learn about fire safety (linked to Bonfire Night), personal safety (supported by NSPCC's Childline resource) and digital safety (linked to our new iPads).

In PE, we will be continuing to develop our basic skills (running, throwing/catching, jumping). We will start to show an awareness of space and the space of others, an ability to control our body when moving and adapting to changes of speed/direction, develop our throwing and catching skills and begin working with a partner/small group.

NUMERACY AND MATHS

Numeracy - This year, we have introduced a new and exciting way to develop important numeracy skills. Children are working to develop their number sense and skills through a range of numeracy topics (such as number word sequences, numerals, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division). Each group is focusing on their next steps in developing these essential number skills, so a typical maths lesson can see different topics being covered. The children are enjoying group teaching input which is responsive to their next steps, games, written tasks and tech time!

Maths - This term we will be developing our knowledge of shape. We will learn to name a range of 2D shapes and 3D objects and describe their properties.

INTERDISCIPLINARY LEARNING

Over the coming weeks we are celebrating the 50th year anniversary of Edenside Primary School, which was opened in 1970.

Everyone has lots of questions about the 1970s as we try to build an image of what life may have been like at that time. We look forward to finding out about school, fashion and design, art, popular culture, film and tv, music and world events in this decade.

HOW YOU CAN HELP AT HOME

LITERACY

Reading:

- Make sure that your child completes their reading homework. This means *they* have to take responsibility for taking it home each night and then returning it back to school the next day.
- Discuss the characters with your child. What do they know about them? You could also discuss what the main events were in the pages you read together.

Spelling:

- Discuss the current phoneme (sound) with your child. Think together of any words that contain that sound. Practise them.
- Help your child to learn to spell their full name - first, middle and surname.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Secret Garden - We are learning that spending time outdoors is important to keep our bodies and minds healthy. We are enjoying weekly trips to the Secret Garden where we will continue to take part in active learning. Please make sure that your child comes to school prepared for outdoor learning (wellies/suitable outdoor shoes, a spare pair of socks, gloves and a hat).

Independence - Please continue to foster independence in your children and encourage them to take responsibility for being **ready** for school. This can include homework, bag packing and being organised for PE/outdoor learning.

Edenside Learners - Talk to your child about our 'Learning Superheroes' and the qualities they show.

NUMERACY AND MATHS

A positive maths mindset:

- Be positive about maths. Try not to say things like "I can't do maths" or "I hated maths at school" - your child may start to think like that themselves.
- Point out the maths in everyday life. Include your child in activities involving numbers and measuring, such as shopping, cooking and travelling.
- Praise your child for effort. This shows them that by working hard they can always improve.

Your child has a Sumdog account. This is a fun and engaging way to continue to practise numeracy skills.

Weekly learning updates are shared on our Facebook group. Ask your child to give you examples of what they have been learning each week.

INTERDISCIPLINARY LEARNING

Encourage your child to find out about life in the past by generating their own questions and asking first hand sources - parents, grandparents, great grandparents, friends and neighbours (even if this wasn't their era!). Relate it back to the 70s, did it come before or after and how have things changed today? This will help the children understand and build a mental timeline of recent history.