



Kingfisher Newsletter Term 1



Welcome back Year 3 and Year 4. I hope you have all had a lovely summer holiday! I am so excited to start this year with you in Kingfisher Class!

Throughout this year, Mrs de Carles and I will be working closely together with the KS2 children to provide them with more support and collaboration opportunities.

PE will be slightly different this year. I will be teaching a PE skills session on Friday mornings to all KS2 children and Up and Under will be providing their usual Friday afternoon PE lesson followed by the optional after school club. As the children will be lucky enough to have two sports sessions in one day, they are able to come to school in their PE kit and stay in this all day. Additionally, Miss Herbert, from School Games and Kingshill School, will continue her work with us by teaching a PE session every Thursday afternoon in Term 1. Lots to look forward to!

Homework will begin in week 2 and will be sent home on Wednesdays to be returned the following Tuesday. Weekly tasks will include activities such as spellings, maths skills, grammar tasks and times tables to help reinforce classroom learning and build children's confidence. Homework is designed to be purposeful and will be sent home most weeks, however, there may be occasions where research tasks are set instead.

English

This term, we will be focusing on linking our writing with our history topic of the Ancient Greeks. We will begin by exploring the Greek Myth 'Theseus and the Minotaur' and applying this narrative to our writing. Later in the term, we will begin writing a recount of our trip in week 4 to The Ashmolean in Oxford.

Along with these writing topics, we will also be developing our grammar knowledge and exploring new reading comprehension texts each week.

Maths

In maths in term 1, Year 3 and Year 4 will be developing their understanding on the following topics:

- Number and Place Value
- Geometry: Properties of Shapes

Alongside the maths lesson, children will complete daily maths skills to help revisit previously taught content and strengthen their fluency on arithmetic style questions and times tables. Additionally, all children will complete daily 3-minute maths during early morning activities.



Science – Power It Up

This term we will be studying electricity, creating circuits and conducting investigations to recognise conductors and insulators. To begin, we will explore different common appliances which utilise electricity and understand different precautions for working safely with electricity. This understanding is then applied when we will construct simple series electrical circuits and identify and name the basic parts which make up a circuit. Finally, we will conduct investigations to identify common conductors and insulators to enable us to associate metals with being effective conductors.

Art – Architecture

In art this term, Kingfisher class will join Owl class in exploring architecture. Throughout this topic, the children will develop their observational drawing skills, compositional skills and develop a drawing into a print using monoprint. To help extend their own design ideas, the children will research other architectures, including Friedensreich Hundertwasser.

RE

In this unit, Kingfisher class will consider the question 'How do Jews in England celebrate festivals, and how does this show what matters to them?' Over the term, Kingfisher Class will explore various Jewish celebrations including Shabbat, Rosh Hashanah and Pesach and determine why these are important to Jewish people.

History – The Ancient Greeks

This term, Kingfishers will be focusing on the Ancient Greek civilisation. They will explore various objectives, including:

- To know the location and time period of Ancient Greece.
- To compare the lives led by the Spartans and the Athenians.
- To understand the importance of the Olympic Games to the Ancient Greeks.
- To understand the importance of religion and the Gods to the Ancient Greek people.
- To utilise evidence to know and understand the importance of warfare in Ancient Greece.



Music

In music, Kingfishers will be exploring an instrumental unit on tuned percussion. The South-Africa themed unit will develop the children's rhythmic, singing and notation skills.

French

By the end of the unit pupils will be able to recognise, recall, remember and spell up to 10 animals with their indefinite article. The children will also be able create short phrases with the verb 'I am' plus the animal nouns and determiners.

Computing

The children will begin the term with revisiting online safety. The children will learn about healthy screen-time, phishing and plagiarism. Later in the term, the children will practice a typing technique to increase their confidence when using a keyboard and develop their muscle memory.

RSHE - Me and My Relationships

The children will be discussing why we have rules. They will also identify people who they have a special relationship with and discuss strategies for maintaining positive relationships. Additionally, Kingfishers will discuss friendships and express their opinions and listen to those of others.

Support from home

Please continue to support your children by reinforcing daily reading.