



Y3/4 Curriculum Information

Autumn Term 2021



Welcome to the start of a new school year. It is lovely to have the children altogether again and to be able to get back to some semblance of normality. What a wonderful class they are proving to be!

For more information on the return to school please visit the school website and look out for the very informative and colourful newsletters – www.tmpf.staffs.sch.uk

Below you will find a brief outline of the curriculum areas, which we will be focusing upon in class throughout the Autumn term. Please note, that the list is a summary and is subject to change over the course of the term. It does, however, offer a little information to enable you to further-support your child's learning.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.



Literacy

In our Literacy sessions this term, we will be developing reading and writing skills, with many cross-curricular opportunities; genres covered include recounts, letter writing and fantasy stories. In our writing sessions we will be focusing on the texts; *Gorilla* by Antony Browne and *Leon and the Place Between* by Grahame Baker Smith and Angela McAllister.

During Guided Reading sessions, we are following a new scheme. On a Monday all the children in the class will be joining in with a whole class shared text. During this session we will be focusing on a piece of text; discussing vocabulary, text types and answering different types of questions. During the rest of the week they will have the opportunity to read independently, work with the teacher in a small group on a new text, or part of a longer text and complete set reading activities. Your child will be taught the skills that enable them to access appropriately levelled texts independently; decoding skills; developing fluency; understanding of an increasing range of vocabulary; how to ask and answer questions using evidence from the text; make predictions and inferences from the characters' actions and the events; recognising facts and opinions and summarising the main points in a text. It is really important that they practise these skills on a regular basis by reading their reading book at home and recording this in their home school record book.

Alongside this Ms York will be supporting small groups with their comprehension skills on a Friday.

I will be changing reading books on a Monday and a Thursday after school, so if your child has read all of their book they can return them to school on these days and place them in the box for changing. They will then get their new book the following day.

Spelling rules and common exception words will be taught in discrete sessions each week and revised and reviewed during the children's independent work. A list of spellings that comply with the week's rule will be sent home each Friday for children to practise prior to a weekly test on the following Friday.

Some children will be continuing to develop their understanding of phonics, attending sessions each morning from Monday to Thursday with Mrs Roberts and Mrs Buckley. If your child is in one of these groups then they will have new spellings on a Thursday to be practised for the following Thursday.

Mrs Buckley will also be working with a small group three times a week to ensure they have completed the KS1 phonics program. This will support them with their independent reading and spelling.

Mathematics

KS2 Children will continue to develop their skills in a range of mathematical areas, including the four main operations, problem solving, fractions, decimals and percentages, shape and measures. This will be followed by collecting and interpreting data in various forms. During the term children will develop their knowledge, confidence and understanding of number work within 10,000; the operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, applying these to solving word problems; position and direction; shapes including angles; presenting and interpreting data; fractions and measurement, including time and using money.

Please see the homework section for details on when it is set. **In addition to homework, the children should be encouraged to learn their times tables.** This term the Y3 children will be focusing on rapid recall of the multiplication and division facts for the 10x, 5x and 2x table and the Y4 children will be consolidating the 3x, 4x and 8x tables. To support them with this your child has a TT Rockstars account <https://trockstars.com/>. Their log in details are in the front of their Home school Record book. Children will have the opportunity to self-assess their own progress during each unit and generate their own targets, with teacher input, on how to make the next steps to progress. Problem solving is a key focus, your child needs to apply their knowledge and this can be practised in real life situations, when shopping (addition, totals, giving change), weighing out ingredients, telling time and using knowledge of time to plan cooking times, measuring for DIY projects! Have a go and see where you use maths every day.

Mr Rhead will be providing maths support for small groups on a Monday and Tuesday.

Homework

Your child will be given two pieces of homework once a fortnight. This will include a piece of maths and a piece of either literacy, science or topic work. The homework will go out on a Friday and will need to be returned to school the second Monday after. This gives the children a full week and two weekends in which to complete their work. The homework will reflect some of the learning taking place in class and enables the children to practise and consolidate their skills, independently. We also expect the children to read at home on a regular basis, practise their times tables and spellings.

Please help and encourage your child to complete their homework to support our learning in school.

There are lots of resources on Discovery Education to help children with their learning – go to <https://www.discoveryeducation.com/>. Your child will have a copy of their log in details in their new Home School Record book.

Science

This term the children will be learning about materials and their properties. In this topic, the children learn about how materials change. First they test properties of materials before looking at how materials dissolve, what a solution is and evaporation. Finally, the children will compare reversible and irreversible changes.

During the second half term, we will work on a topic called 'Out of this World'. In this topic, the children will learn about space. Starting with the Solar System, they will look next at how ideas about space have changed over time, before they explore what causes us to experience night and day on Earth.

Computing

Over the term the children will develop their use of a word processor, using this to present their own work in a variety of ways.

They continue to build on their use of coding to program simple games.

Wider Curriculum

Over the course of the Autumn term we will be learning about history and geography.

In our geography unit, the children will: name and locate counties and cities of the UK, geographical regions and their identifying human and physical characteristics, key topographical features (including hills, mountains, coasts and rivers), and land-use patterns; and understand how some of these aspects have changed over time. They will understand geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region of the UK. The children will use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features. Using the eight points of a compass, four- and six-figure grid references, symbols and key (including the use of OS maps), they will build on their knowledge of the UK and the wider world. Through fieldwork they will be taught to observe, measure, record and present the human and physical features in the local area using a range of methods, including sketch maps, plans and graphs and digital technologies.

In history we will learn about the world of the Anglo-Saxons. They will consider why they came to Britain and whether the period deserves to be called the 'Dark Ages'. The children will investigate a range of sources, which provide us with evidence about the people living at that time. The children will examine archaeological evidence, such as the Sutton Hoo ship burial and the Staffordshire Hoard, while using written evidence from the time, including Beowulf, to provide context for the archaeological finds. They will learn about the importance of archaeological evidence and the work of the archaeologist, as well as the accidental finds of metal detectorists.

PSHE

During this lesson we discuss the social and emotional aspects of learning, which affect our everyday lives; the importance of friendships and how to resolve conflicts.

Music

The music units are delivered by our musical expert Mrs Whiteley and the children will be learning how to play the violin!



Modern Foreign Language

On a Tuesday, Mr Day, will be joining us to continue to develop our bilingual skills in Spanish.

Religious Education

During RE sessions we will be learning about people of faith and promises made by God. Learning about Abraham and how he showed his trust in God and how he was rewarded for his faith. We will also be looking further into the Holy Trinity and what this means for Christians.

Physical Education

The children will have 2 hours of PE a week.

	Tuesday	Thursday
Year 3/4	football Mr Day	ball skills ASM

Could you please ensure your child is wearing the appropriate outdoor PE kit for this time of year, this should include trainers; shorts and a Great Wood t-shirt, jogging bottoms and warm tops.

Could I just say a big thank you for your continued support, as we continue to keep up to date with changes in guidance over the coming term.

If you have any questions about the information above or any other issues that are concerning you, please ring to make a telephone appointment on 01538 702355 option 4 or email office@greatwood.staffs.sch.uk.

Take care and keep safe,

Mrs. P. Furnival