

A big welcome to the Spring Term from the Year 4 team - Miss Davis, Miss Read, Mrs Abbott and Mrs Hedgecock. We are really looking forward to our topic work on France and our exciting production later on in the term.

English

This term, the children will be improving their descriptive vocabulary using figurative language. They will also continue to practise how to use fronted adverbials as a way of improving sentence openers to appeal to a reader.

Our non-fiction work will focus on creating an information brochure about France. The children will learn to use a formal tone and the importance of using subheadings to organise their writing.

The children will also be writing a diary using the correct tense and appropriate features, together with expressing personal feelings.



Science

Through a range of experiments, children will learn about solids, liquids and gases and the effects of changing temperature on states of matter. Children will also learn about the water cycle.

In the second half of the term, children will learn about sound, how it is generated, modified and travels. We will also learn about Evelyn Glennie, a profoundly deaf musician who performs barefoot in order to feel the music.

Maths

A key focus remains on place value and developing the children's understanding of tenths and hundredths as they explore decimal numbers.

During the term, the children will continue to develop problem-solving skills and consolidate written methods in all four operations.

Later in the term, we will be focusing on fractions. Children will recap unit and non-unit fractions and begin to explore fractions of an amount and equivalent fractions.

There has been amazing progress with fluency of times tables. Support at home with further practise of **all times table facts** will put them in good stead for the statutory multiplication tables check in June.

Geography

Our topic this term is France and we will explore its location, identifying neighbouring countries as well as natural landscapes and human features including tourist attractions. We will compare the South-Eastern region of France to South-East England, exploring their similarities and differences.



Art

The French artist, Monet, will be the inspiration for our own impressionist artwork. Children will learn how to generate different shades of colours using both watercolour and powder paints and experiment with creating various effects. Applying these skills, the children will choose their medium to create their own Monet inspired masterpieces.

PE

PE this term will be on a Monday and Tuesday afternoon. Children will be beginning the term with orienteering where children will be navigating between checkpoints using a map. Then, they will be honing their gym skills using the apparatus to improve balance and coordination. In the second half of Spring Term, children will be developing their creative dance.



Life skills

We will be exploring similarities and differences between people, focusing on respect and compassion. Later in the term, children will learn about the importance of staying safe online and how to assess the reliability of something found online.

Linking with our D.T. project, children will broaden their understanding of a balanced diet and the need for a healthy lifestyle.

Design and Technology

Children will find out about the history of the Michelin Guide and its impact on the culinary world before looking at different recipes for crêpes. They will then learn how some topping ingredients are produced and about seasonality. Children will taste a variety of ingredients and choose what to include in their own final product. Best of all, they will get to prepare and taste their creations!

Languages

Our French themed topic is a great opportunity for children to grow in confidence in the vocabulary already introduced. In lessons, we will also focus on different types of weather. Exploring different climates across France, we will write and present our own weather forecasts.

Computing

Children will create a 'France' themed fact file using PowerPoint having learnt skills including hyperlinking and animations. We will also continue to look at e-safety, particularly exploring gaming, messaging, advertising and how to research safely on the internet.

Homework

Homework expectation continues to be the completion of MyMaths weekly. In addition, children should read independently or to an adult a minimum of three times a week and should also practise times tables twice a week with the aim to being able to recall all times tables within 5 seconds by the end of the Spring Term.

Email addresses:

miss.davis@greattotham.essex.sch.uk

miss.read@greattotham.essex.sch.uk

