

## Topic Work - 'Ourselves'

This term we will be thinking about ourselves. This will include naming different parts of our body and thinking about a different sense each week: hearing, smell, touch, sight and taste.

We will be looking at what keeps us healthy and how we should care for each other.



The children will also be thinking about accurately drawing a self portrait and labelling the key features of their face.

## Literacy– Talk for writing

This term children will be learning traditional tales using story maps. I'm sure they will be very keen to come home and tell you stories they have learnt!

They will then move on to poetry and stories with predictable and repeated patterns, leading to them modelling these concepts in their own writing.

## History and Geography

We will be looking at toys from the past and making comparisons with those of the present day. In Geography we will be exploring the United Kingdom. We will have themed days in October celebrating the UK that we'd love you to be involved in. Please see your child's class teacher if you'd like to take part.



## Developing your child's independence

In Year 1 we encourage children to develop their **independence**. Towards the end of this half term, we therefore ask you to give your child more responsibility for their morning routine E.G. hanging their coat up, putting their things away and changing their reading book.

## Mathematics

Here are some ideas to help support your child at

### Number Work:

Look for numbers in their every day lives - door numbers, clocks, on television, coins, on packages, in supermarkets and talk about what they mean. Number recognition

1 - 10 and one to one counting of objects would be especially useful.

Addition - Put the **big number** in their **head** and **count on** (using finger or small objects).

Subtraction - Put the **big number** in their **head**

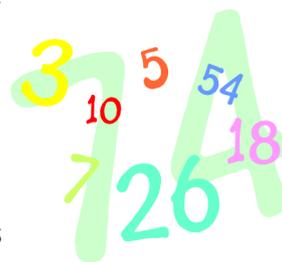
### Shapes - 2D and 3D:

Help your children to identify circles, squares, rectangles and triangles in their every day environment, e.g. objects found around the home, outside and in the car. Packaging is another good way of identifying cylinders, cuboids and cubes. Balls are good for recognising

### Measures

To help develop important mathematical vocabulary, try to encourage your child to make comparisons in several ways :

Who is taller/shorter? Who has larger feet or hands etc? Which object is heavier or lighter?



## Reading

Your child needs to change their reading book at least once a week. However they may change it everyday if they choose to.

In Year 1 children are expected to **read more** of the story with parental input only when they have difficulties. Please try to encourage your child to 'sound out' words that are written how they sound e.g. w-e-n-t... went.

Please share and talk together about what is happening in the



We use a range of social media to keep you updated about learning in our school. Photos, news and information are published regularly so please 'friend' or 'follow' us. You can also view all the information by just visiting the sites above- you don't need to 'join' Twitter or Facebook, however, you won't be able send messages or interact with these sites unless you subscribe. For help with this, please see Mr Sansom. A new school website is being planned, for launch this term. As a result, the current website is not being updated on a regular basis. Please see our daily updates on Twitter and Facebook!

Chad Vale Facebook: <http://on.fb.me/Q83o5a>

Chad Vale Twitter: <http://twitter.com/chadvaleprimary>

School Pupil Tracker: <http://mychildsreport.co.uk>

School website: <http://www.chadvale.bham.sch.uk>

PE will be on...

Wednesday and Thursday for Class 1 Chad and  
Tuesday and Wednesday for Class 1 Vale

Also all children need to bring a large old shirt or t-shirt into school to use as a painting apron.

### Literacy Hour

This term we are focusing on traditional stories and rhymes with repetitive patterns. Our non fiction work will encompass signs, captions, labels, lists and instructions. You can help by encouraging your child to read instructions for toys and games at home or signposts and directions when travelling about. Please encourage your child to read and write at any opportunity outside school.



### Spellings

All children will bring home between 3 and 6 spellings to learn per week. These are taken directly from the National Literacy Strategy list. You can help your child to learn their



spellings using one of the methods taught in school. This is called 'Look, say, cover, write, check.'

### Tests

Tests will take place weekly on Mondays. All testing has the expectation of improving upon previous best.

LOOK	at the word carefully
COVER Say	the word the word out loud
WRITE	the word from memory
CHECK	the word for accurate spelling.

### Money Matters

Help your child to become familiar with different coins: look at the colour, size, shape and feel. Ask them how much small items cost and which coins they could use to pay for them.

### Mathematics:

We will be completing units of work on length and number. To reinforce our shape work you can help by encouraging your child to identify 3D shapes in the environment, e.g. food packaging. They will also need to become familiar with the following



tall, taller, tallest, short, shorter, shortest etc. 3D shapes, roll, slide, flat, curved, surface, circle, rectangle triangle, square.

### Homework

Homework will be given out on Fridays. It is not due in until the following Friday but we will take it in earlier if it has been completed. (Your child's homework may be different from other children's in the class.)

## Achieving Independence

Class one is all about independence and supporting children in becoming more independent. After the second week of term, we would like all children to bring their own belongings into class in the mornings and for parents to say good bye in the class one pen. If you need to speak to a teacher in the morning of course you are more than welcome to come in.

We thank you for your support as we endeavour to achieve independence.

### Science.



Our first Science topic will be 'Ourselves'.



During this topic the children will be expected to name all the parts of the body and will be learning about the five senses. After half term we will be studying forces in the shape of pushes and pulls. We will be focusing on different types of movement using vocabulary such as twist, climb, jump, turn, slide, push, pull.



### Geography

This term we will be looking at the local area.



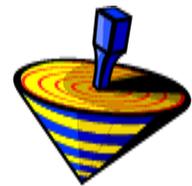
You can help greatly by pointing out features on your route to school for example: shops, post boxes, bridges and by reading and discussing different signs and road signs.



### History.



This term we will be learning about Toys from the past. It would be very helpful if you could talk to your child about your favourite toys and how toys were different when you were a child. Talking to older relatives, aunts, uncles grandparents, about their childhood toys would also be invaluable.



Discussions involving how you played certain games or how you played with certain toys would also help.



- Your child should bring his/her reading book into school each school day. (They will be changed on Tuesdays and Thursdays.)
- All children should have pumps, a T shirt and shorts for gym / P.E. everyday. (P.E. will be on Mondays and Thursdays.)
- All clothing and personal possessions brought into school should be clearly marked with your child's name.



Kind regards,  
Bruce Warland and Caroline Hanson

## Literacy Hour

In the Literacy Hour, we will be concentrating on instructional writing. Your child may be given some spellings to bring home and learn, to support phonic work happening during literacy hour.

Your child will also bring home a reading book. Please encourage your child to share the book by reading it each day, remembering bring it to school daily for the teachers to check on the progress made! It is very helpful for you to write in the Reading Diary when you have



## Mathematics



In Mathematics, alongside the number work, we will begin to learn to measure in metres and centimetres.

Towards the end of term we shall be adding and subtracting money using real life

problems. We shall be looking at time using analogue or 12 hour digital clocks and handling data by classifying and organising information in a list or table. It would be



Towards the end of the term the children will explore an event that has been commemorated annually for nearly 100 years. The children will investigate the origins of Remembrance Day and explore why people today wear poppies during the month of November.



## Science: Health and Growth

During this term the children will be looking at health and growth. They will learn that animals (including humans) grow and reproduce. They can use ideas about feeding and growth to learn about ways we need to look after ourselves to stay healthy.



## PE

PE days are now Mondays and Thursday. Your child should come in clothes that are easy to change in on these days. For girls please remember earrings are not allowed to be worn on PE days for safety reasons.

## Geography

We will be comparing our locality with another overseas locality (A rainforest.). We will look at differences and similarities in homes, school, food and climate.

## Art ~ Picture This!

In Art the children will explore the area around them. They will learn how to use a viewfinder and record their observations and ideas using a variety of methods including photography and collage. We will be looking at and commenting on the work of photographers and illustrators.



## Design and Technology

This term the children will be making a moving vehicle. They will learn how to join materials in different ways and will complete the whole process of designing, making and evaluating. For this project to be a success we will need to collect boxes of different sizes to make the carriage part of our vehicles. This project will start in the week commencing 13th November and run for three weeks. During this time we would be grateful if you could send in cereal boxes or other small boxes. Thank you.

Our topic for this term is a history based topic called:

## Invaders and Settlers



We will be learning about the Romans the reasons behind their invasion of Britain, how life in Britain changed and the legacy left by the Romans. We shall also be studying the Saxon and Viking invasions. The class will be finding historical information from a variety of sources such as artefacts, reference books and CD-ROMS.



### How can you help?

The children may benefit from a visit to the Birmingham Museum to look at the artefacts on display or a visit to the local library to borrow books linked to the topic

**In other subjects the children will be:**

**I.C.T.** Changing text styles/fonts, DTP and word processing.

**Design Technology** Looking at how packaging can influence which goods we buy.

**Art** Learning how art (including figures) communicates ideas about relationships. We will create a portrait that conveys ideas about themselves.

**Music** Develop children's ability to discriminate between higher and lower sounds and to create simple melodic patterns.



## Our SCIENCE topics are: Teeth and Eating



During the course of this unit of work the children will learn by looking at a range of different foods that they eat and understand which are important for keeping them healthy.

### Helping plants grow well.

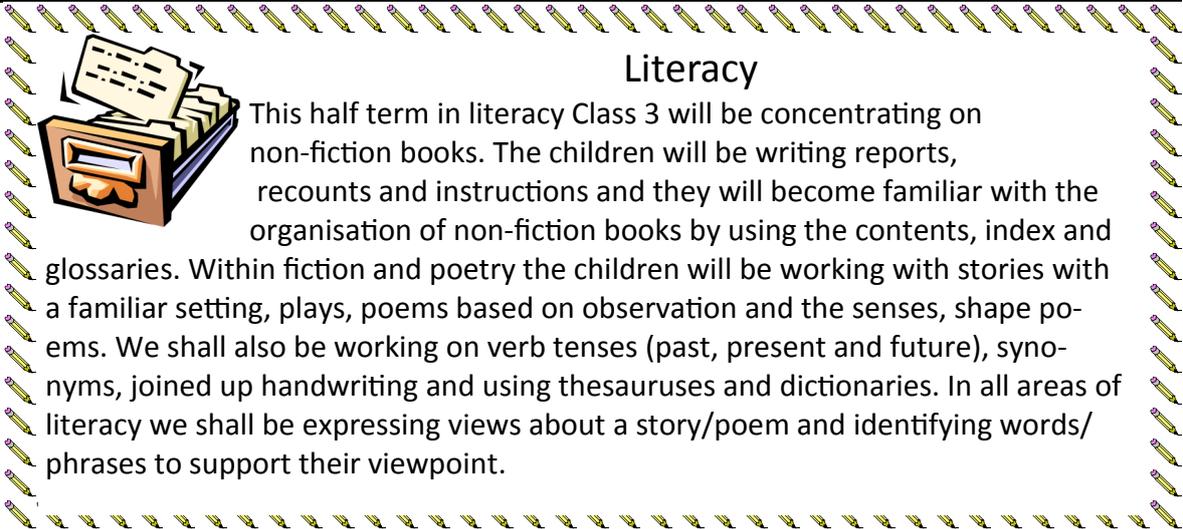
During the course of this unit of work the children will learn



that plants grow and reproduce, that plants need water to grow and how to measure volumes of liquids.



You may wish to talk about your plants in your house and how you look after them.



## Literacy

This half term in literacy Class 3 will be concentrating on non-fiction books. The children will be writing reports, recounts and instructions and they will become familiar with the organisation of non-fiction books by using the contents, index and glossaries. Within fiction and poetry the children will be working with stories with a familiar setting, plays, poems based on observation and the senses, shape poems. We shall also be working on verb tenses (past, present and future), synonyms, joined up handwriting and using thesauruses and dictionaries. In all areas of literacy we shall be expressing views about a story/poem and identifying words/phrases to support their viewpoint.



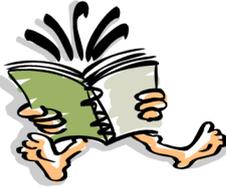
## Numeracy

In numeracy the children will be working on multiplication and division. They will be multiplying numbers mentally by 10 and 100 and looking at multiplication as repeated addition and as an array.

The children will also look at fractions. They will become familiar with  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{3}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{5}$  and  $\frac{1}{10}$  and will be finding fractions of

How can you help?

Please encourage your child to learn the 2, 5 and 10 times tables off by heart. (Remember, if they know their 2x table then, by doubling, they know their 4 and 8 times table.) It would also be helpful if they could practice tell-



### Literacy

In the Literacy Hour this term we will be looking at historical novels and stories, play scripts and poetry based on common themes such as school, space and animals. We will also be looking at a range of non-fiction texts including reports and articles in newspapers and magazines.

The children will be learning different ways to plan a story, to write character sketches and to compose poems based on personal and imagined experiences.

### Things you can do at home to help.

Please encourage your child to discuss the books they read giving personal opinions and using evidence from the text to support their views. Share interesting newspaper and magazine articles with them and encourage them to read these independently.

### Numeracy.

This term the children will be developing their mental and oral skills in:

- Counting on and back in tens and hundreds from any two or three digit number
- Reading and writing whole numbers to 1000.
- Recalling multiplication facts.



**At home you could help your child by encouraging them to practise developing these skills.**

The children will also be learning to :

- Use, read and write kilometres, metres, centimetres and millimetres in full and in abbreviation.
- Recognise equilateral and Isosceles triangles
- Collect, classify, represent and interpret data in tally charts, frequency tables and pictograms.
- To recognise fractions that are several parts of a whole and mixed number fractions.



### P.E

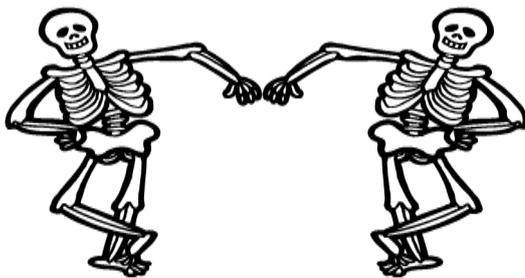
Class 4 will be swimming at Blue Coat for the first half term. Please make sure your child brings a swimming kit every Wednesday until half term.

## Science

During the Autumn Term we will be covering two topics in Science. Firstly 'Moving and Growing' and then 'Circuits and Conductors'.

For our 'Moving and Growing' topic the focus will be on observing bones and comparing the skeletons of a range of vertebrates, the function of the skeleton and contraction and relaxation of muscles.

The topic on 'Circuits and Conductors' will help the children learn about circuits and what is required for them to work. They will also find out about electrical insulators and conductors.



## History.

This term we will be covering two aspects of the historical period The Tudors. One entitled 'Why did King Henry VIII marry six times?' and the second 'The differences between the rich and the poor in Tudor times'.



At home you can support your child by encouraging them to research this historical period through books and the Internet for a homework project - a cover sheet will be provided later in the term.

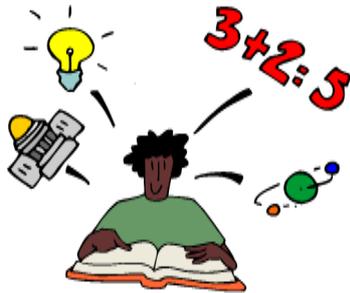
## Literacy

In 'Big Writing' this term we will be focusing on a range of text types including narrative. This will involve looking closely at creating characters, setting the scene and using VCOP (vocabulary, connectives, openers and punctuation.)

Guided and independent reading will be a focus; please ensure your child is reading at home and using their reading diary. Throughout the term we will also be focusing on creating drama and the development of complex plots, script writing and communication through performance, the poetry of significant poets, instructional and recount texts.

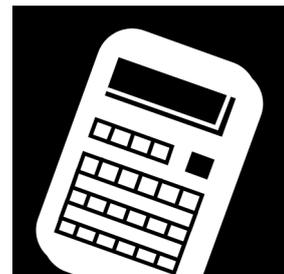


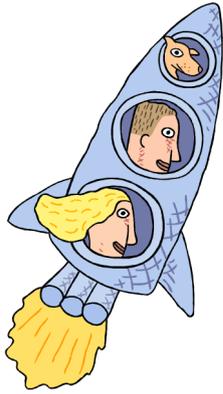
## Numeracy.



Throughout this term the children will be extending their skills in multiplication and division through the use of different methods, handling data and mental calculation strategies. We will also practice and develop our knowledge of place value, fractions, decimals, percentages and 'real life' numeracy involving money.

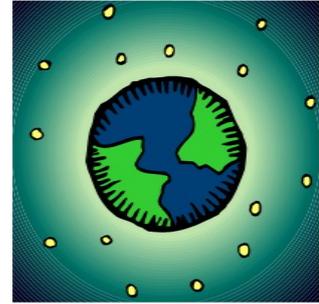
Using calculators the children will be learning how to self assess their work.





## Science.

For the first half of term our science topic is based around the Earth, Sun and Moon. The children will also have the opportunity to research factual information about the planets and our solar system. The key



vocabulary for this unit includes: sphere, direct/indirect evidence, scale, spin, rotate, axis, pole, equator, longitude, latitude, orbit, cycle, seasons.

During the second half term we will be looking at keeping healthy. Key vocabulary



includes: diet, balanced diet, food types, growth, heart, organ Pulse rate. We will also be looking at different medicines and the use of legal and illegal drugs in society.

## Geography and History

Our two topics this term cover Tudor Exploration in History and Water in Geography.



Key vocabulary for History includes: map, atlas, globe, world, firearms, galleon, scurvy!

The key vocabulary in use for the topic on Water



includes: rain, shower, thunder storm, drain, gutter, sewer, evaporation, pollution, purification, irrigation, precipitation.

### Literacy

During this term we will be looking at the works of established authors. We will be reading books written by Dick King Smith, Roald Dahl and Rudyard Kipling.

In writing we will further develop the skills of biographical and autobiographical writing in role, adopting distinctive voices, e.g. of historical characters through, e.g. :

- Preparing a CV
- Composing a biographical account based on research;
- Describing a person from different perspectives, e.g. police;
- Description, school report, newspaper obituary.



### Numeracy

In numeracy the children will be further developing their understanding of place value, ordering and rounding and will be using a calculator. They will be working both mentally and using pencil and paper procedures with all four operations. They will continue to build on work they were taught last year working with: fractions, decimals and percentages; ratio and proportion; money and 'real life' problems.



### Design Technology

The children this term will be investigating 'Slippers'. After investigating the purpose and construction of slippers, the children will design and create their own.



## Geography

This term in Geography the children will be studying mountains

At the end of this unit most children be able to:

- Talk about the climate changes
- Study in depth mountain ranges
- Talk about the effect of tourism on mountain ranges.

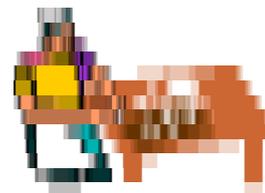


## Science

This term the children will be studying 'Reversible and Irreversible Changes' and 'Dissolving'.

### **'Reversible and Irreversible Changes'**

The children will use careful observation to describe a number of changes; classify some changes, e.g. dissolving as reversible and others, e.g. burning as irreversible; recognise that irreversible changes often make new and useful materials and recognise the hazards of burning materials. Within this module the children will be baking. (Science at Work.)



### **'Dissolving'**

Within this module the children will be setting up an investigation/ enquiry over a five week module on dissolving. They will be predicting and testing, asking questions, conducting their investigation, presenting their results and analysing them, reviewing and refining their investigation. They will be reviewing the use of filtration to separate solids from liquids and dissolving solids to form solutions..



## History.

In history we will be looking at Britain since the 1940's. if any parents or grandparents have interesting artefacts from this era that they would be willing to share with the class, or if anybody has experiences from this time they would like to come and talk about with the class please let Miss Crombie know. Thank you!





### Curriculum News Autumn Term

#### Autumn term Science:

Science: In science this term we will be investigating how we can keep healthy. We will be looking at : healthy eating; food groups; having a healthy heart; pulse rates; digestion.



We will also be looking at the dangers of alcohol abuse

and smoking. This will be covered also in the fire caravan visit. parents will be given the opportunity to visit the life caravan.

#### Things you could do at home.

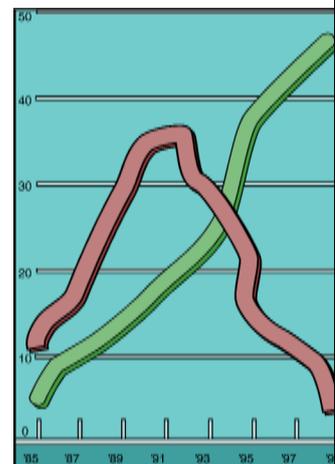
- Discuss which parts of family meals are fruits or vegetables. Look at food packaging information and contents.
- Let them feel their pulse before and after strenuous activity



**Mathematics:** Our focus this half term will be looking at shape and space, classifying different types of triangles and trying to solve some shape puzzles. We will also be looking at different types of measures including distance, time and reading different types of measurement scales accurately. Finally we will be using our number work to solve a range of number and measurement problems.

#### How you can help

- If your child finds it difficult to tell the time using both the 12 hour clock and the 24 hour clock, please could you practice this at home.



## Geography



The topic to be covered this term is -

### **The water cycle.**

We will be investigating how we use / waste water. Looking at water around our school. There will be cross curricular work in poetry 'Water poems'. Things you can do: how much water do you use to brush your teeth, wash hair, have a bath/shower. Investigate in your house where the water goes when you pull the plug in the bathroom. Ask your child questions such as - When it rains where does the water go? What is snow? What is a rainbow? Chart how many days it rains in a particular month.



- Could you practice estimating and measuring different types of measures including length, weight and volume.

Please can you help your child to learn their tables by heart and their related division facts. You could also look for examples of graphs, charts and tables in newspapers and magazines and bring them into school.

## **English**

Our focus this term will be on fiction/non-fiction writing. We will be looking specifically at :instructional and diary writing; novels, stories and poems by significant writers: play scripts and concrete poetry. There will be lots of opportunities to read different types of non-fiction and learn how to make effective notes from reading.



**At home:** Please can you share different types of instructional writing with you child: recipes, self-assembly furniture instructions, operating manuals. See if they could follow the instructions! Share your favourite authors of poems and stories with your child.

## **Religious Education**

This term we are going to be finding out about Guru Nanak: his life and his beliefs. We will also be visiting the local Christian church, looking at the significance of communion and the last supper.

**At home:**

If you have any information about Guru Nanak or Christian practice please could you share this with your child.