

Literacy

During this term we will be writing reports, recounts and instructions. The children will also become familiar with the organisation of non-fiction books by using the contents, index and glossaries. Within fiction children will study familiar settings; such as their home. The expectation is that children will extend their vocabulary by using the aid of a thesaurus and be able to choose vocabulary suited to the purpose. In poetry, the children will examine shape poems. They will then write their own poems based on the examples shown.

Throughout the term we will focus on VCOP (Vocabulary, Connectives, Openers and Punctuation) and handwriting. At Chad Vale there is the expectation that all children should write using cursive hand script. Please support your child with their handwriting. Also, please encourage your child to use standard English when they speak as this helps with their writing.



Reading



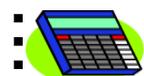
Reading is a crucial element of learning for any person. Research indicates that those who read are those who write well. I can not emphasise how important it is for you to constantly encourage your child to read as much as they can. This activity can start early in the morning by reading the back of the cereal packet! Children should always read before they go to bed even if that is for 5 minutes (this could be a great chance for you to read with your child).

In class we have already started reading our class novel which the children are thoroughly enjoying—children are never too old to be read to.

In year 3, children begin the exciting race in the 'Reading Marathon.' This gives them an opportunity to work at their own pace to gain a certificate for each award they acquire. Please note that the children have the opportunity to change their books at the school library as and when they please (early morning, break time & lunch time). Please encourage your child to visit the library as often as they can.

Numeracy

The first four weeks will be used to revise and practise new addition, subtraction, multiplication and division strategies. The children will also look at place value, 2D and 3D shape facts. Towards the end of the term, we will be gathering data and displaying it in a number of formats. Throughout the term, children will regularly practise their mental mathematic targets which are taken from their 'Numeracy Passports.'



Once again please support your child to learn their times tables.



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

Chad Vale Twitter: <http://twitter.com/chadvaleprimary>
School website: <http://www.chadvale.bham.sch.uk>

Geography

This term in Geography the children will be studying weather around the world.

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

- Talk about the climate changes
- Identify the different weather icons/conditions
- Talk about the effects of natural disasters on the world we live in.

The children will be creating a final project about a particular weather that they are interested in.



Science

This term the children will be studying 'Teeth and Eating' and 'Rocks, Soils and fossils.'

'Teeth and Eating'

During the course of this unit of work, the children will look at a range of different foods and understand which are important for keeping them healthy. Also, the structure and maintenance of teeth will be discussed during a debate.



'Rocks, Soils and Fossils'

Within this module the children will be looking at rocks and soils. Our work will cover the characteristics and uses of different rock types, comparing rock samples, discovering where they come from and investigating water flow through different soils.



History

In History this term we will learn about the Romans.

Children will be given the opportunity to learn about:

- The existence of the Romans—who they were?
- Understand the role they played in the history of Britain.
- The reasons behind their invasion of Britain.
- Describe daily life, work, family structures, and gender roles
- Research a wide range of resources.
- Prepare a presentation that they will deliver to the class.



Children will be given a project as part of their homework which they can start over the half term holiday.

Other Subjects

★ **ICT**—Creating comic strips and researching a subject of their choice. Children will also be given their school email address and will be encouraged to use these.

★ **Design and Technology**—'Moving monsters' Children will explore pneumatic systems in order to make a moving monster.

★ **Art**—Portraits; children will learn how to draw their own portrait.

★ **Music**—Discriminating between higher and lower sounds and creating simple melodic patterns

★ **PE**—For the first half term children will be swimming. Next half term we will be concentrating on net and wall games. Please make sure children have their PE kits for Tuesday and swimming kits for Wednesdays.

How can you help?

Please encourage your child to learn their timetables. You could also play little games involving time; i.e. how long does your favourite programme last for? How many minutes did it take you to get dressed? Etc. Do remember to use '**Mathletics**' and '**Education City**' (there are a vast amount of games children can play on there to aid their learning). '**Reading Eggs**' also encourages children to read a variety of books online.

NB: Children will be given their passwords next week, if you do incur any problems then please just let us know.

In addition you will receive a sheet showing the strategies taught for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. This will give you an idea of the strategies we use in school.