

Year 2 Curriculum Overview

A Knight's Tale

English

As **readers**, the children will be exploring the legend of King Arthur through the story 'The Magic Sword' by James Mayhew. They will make inferences based on what has been said and done, and make predictions about what might happen next. Later in the term, they will be reading and following instructions to make medieval themed crafts. As **writers**, the children will plan, then write their own legend. They will have the opportunity to make medieval gingerbread then use this experience to write their own set of instructions. As **speakers and listeners**, they will use a range of drama techniques to explore 'The Magic Sword' story. They will orally retell the story, as well as those that they have written themselves.

Mathematics

As **mathematicians**, the children will begin the term by recognising and using coins, and the symbols for pounds and pence. They will use coins to solve addition and subtraction problems, including those involving totalling and giving change. The children will then move onto revisiting and consolidating previously learnt strategies for multiplication and division. They will work on deriving and recalling the facts for the 2, 5 and 10 times tables, and solving word problems. Measures activities this term will focus on estimating and measuring temperature using thermometers, as well as reading time to the nearest 5 minutes. The children will finish the term with a focus on statistics; interpreting and constructing simple pictograms, tally charts, block diagrams and tables, and using them to ask and answer simple questions.

Geography

As **geographers**, the children will learn to locate King's Cliffe and Hastings on a UK map, as well as identifying the surrounding countries, capital cities and seas. They will explore the characteristics of the castles in each of the capital cities, and use maps to explore the physical and human features of Hastings.

Science

As **scientists**, the children will become apprentice gardeners. They will learn what seeds are and about the types of seeds grown during medieval times. Through investigations, they will explore the best conditions to grow plants.

Music

As **musicians**, the children will explore the musical elements of timbre and pitch. They will begin to learn about musical notation through the use of quavers and crotchets, and use a range of instruments to compose and improvise.

Art, Design and Technology

As **designers**, the children will be designing, making and evaluating their own medieval fruit salads. They will begin by exploring the food pyramid to consider which food groups are important for a healthy body and then research where the food comes from.



Computing

As **technologists**, the children will be developing their word-processing skills by typing out one of their poems written last term. They will learn how to change the style and colour of the font to interest the reader, as well as add images and run a spell check.

E-Safety

As **technologists**, the children will revisit the school's e-safety rules and discuss why each one is important. They will have the opportunity to put them into practice when using the laptops for publishing activities this term.

RE

As **theologians**, the children will continue learning about Saint Francis and Jesus. They will compare Saint Francis' teachings to modern day teachings and ways of life.

PE

As **competitors**, the children will work with rugby balls to travel, pass and score a try. They will also have the opportunity to complete a programme of yoga with Penny.

Important Dates

Monday: Mrs Horton in school

Tuesday: Mrs Horton in school. P.E. Yoga (indoors) with Penny

Wednesday: Mrs Sibson and Mrs Horton in school. P.E. Games (outdoors) with Mrs Smith

Thursday: Mrs Sibson in school. Homework handed in, spelling test and library books changed (if needed).

Friday: Mrs Sibson in school. Tackling Tables test. New homework and spellings set.

Homework

Please continue to hear your child read as often as you can and make comments about how they are getting on. It is important that your child understands and can talk about what they are reading, as well as decoding the words. Please use the suggested questions handed out at Parents' Evening to help you with this, and encourage your child to find the evidence in the text that supports their answers. **Please rest assured that we assess the children's reading on a weekly basis, and will move them onto the next book band as soon as we feel they are ready.**

Each week the children will be given some spellings to learn at home. As we are now into the second part of the academic year, we suggest that they put each word into a sentence, as well as learning how to spell it.

The children will also be asked to complete a 'Learning Journal' as part of their homework. They will be asked to demonstrate their learning from English, mathematics or topic sessions that week, and they may choose their own way of doing so.

Spellings and homework will be given on Fridays for completion by the following Thursday, when spellings will also be tested.

Useful Websites:

English, mathematics and science activities:

www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/

Handwriting practice:

www.letterjoin.co.uk (username: kings password: cliffe)

Science:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/science/growing_plants/play/

Knights and Castles

<http://www.usborne.com/quicklinks/eng/catalogue/catalogue.aspx?loc=uk&id=1703>

<http://www.dkfindout.com/uk/quiz/history/quiz-yourself-on-castles/>

If you have any questions or comments, please speak to us in the playground on Thursday mornings or at the end of the day. Alternatively, you can write a note in the reading diary. If you wish to discuss an issue in more depth, please do not hesitate to make an appointment.

Mrs Sibson, Mrs Horton and Mrs Hutchings

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Year 2
Spring 2 2017/18
Mrs Sibson, Mrs Horton
and Mrs Hutchings

