

BROXBOURNE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

# Learning Links

Spring 2016

Year 4



The aim of this booklet is to give you a broad understanding of the subjects and topics the children will be learning about this term. We hope that it will help us to strengthen our learning partnership and benefit the children.

Class teacher: Mrs Deborah Webster / Mrs. Tricia Phillips

# English



**Reading:** the children will have numerous reading opportunities throughout the week as part of Literacy lessons. There will be guided reading sessions where a carousel of reading activities take place. Every child shall read to an adult as part of a group at least once every week. The children should continue to regularly read books of their choice from the school books in order to challenge and enhance their comprehension and vocabulary. In order to aid a more rapid development of reading skills, it is recommended that your child regularly reads a school text. There is an extensive range of text types in school, but should your child be having difficulty finding a book which interests them, then please let me know.

**Writing:** handwriting and presentation will continue to be given a high priority and children who are joining their writing will be given 'pen licences' so that they may use black ink pens for their written work.

When working on texts, the children will study stories from other cultures such as 'The Ice Palace' by Robert Swindells and Journey to Jo'burg by Beverley Naidoo. Using those stories as a basis they'll develop their descriptive writing skills and think about the dilemmas those characters faced. Children will also learn how to write a clear and concise explanation text.

We will also be investigating a variety of different poems and poetry genres.

Work will continue on the children's generic writing skills and the class target of using more adventurous vocabulary.

**Grammar, spelling and handwriting:** children will continue to have weekly spellings. They will be learning a variety of word endings as well as further prefixes. In grammar lessons we will continue to revise the use of full stops and capital letters as well as commas and inverted commas. There will also be a focus on tense work and how paragraphs are structured in non-fiction writing.



# Maths

The children will be using their mathematical knowledge to problem solve by practising recording clearly, estimation, logical and systematic working and explaining how they found the answer.

The children will continue to work on both written and mental methods of calculation and will be moving on to more formal methods for multiplication, addition and subtraction. They will also be reviewing and developing their knowledge of place value, symmetry and angles in shape, fractions, time and weight.

Please continue to support us by helping your child learn their times tables as well as activities to help them understand the practical nature of measures, especially time and weight.

## **SCIENCE:**

Topic 1: The children will be reviewing their work on healthy eating and learning about the way in which their body processes food, especially the role played by teeth and the importance of taking care of them.

Topic 2: Children will be learning to associate sound with vibration and that the further away from the source, the fainter the sound. They will investigate how sound travels outwards from a source and consider the way in which the size and strength of the sound source influences

**RE and WORSHIP:** This term's Christian Values are: Faith, Perseverance and Service. In continuing to consider bigger questions such as 'How do we show our commitment?' we will look at how Christians celebrate Lent. The children will also explore the significance and the symbolism of Easter and think about the rituals we have as Christians that reflect the importance of these events in our lives.

**COMPUTING:** children will be reviewing different electronic communications at home and at school, exploring language, style and formats used, in particular blogs. They will learn how the internet is a network which can provide ways of communication. They will also learn how to use sound editing software to capture , import and manipulate sound to communicate meaning. The important issue of internet safety will also be revisited.

**HUMANITIES:** our main topic this year is to understand the differences between the Northern and Southern Hemispheres we will be adopting more of a geographical perspective this term, considering the Rainforests and Antarctica and contrasting these areas with life in U.K. The children will be encouraged to look at the contrasts and similarities between life in the two environments and compare them both to their own lives in Britain.

**THE ARTS including MUSIC:** Art this term will involve the children become more familiar with the work of Monet and Matisse. The children will experiment with watercolours and create a variety of montages in the style which Matisse was famous for. In music the children will be looking at understanding texture and learning about layered structure in a rhythmic ostinato piece. They will be exploring the pentatonic scale and learn how to compose and notate pentatonic melodies. They will also look at the structure of music, exploring layers and layering and understanding that melodies have phrases.

**PE, HEALTH AND WELL BEING:** in swimming this term, the children will be looking at improving their techniques in the basic swimming strokes. Football, netball and tag rugby will take place during Mondays' games lessons. During our circle times we will be discussing how to work towards personal goals and exploring that it is good to be themselves.

**FRENCH:** this term, the children will learn the names of body parts, members of the family and revise vocabulary related to animals. Lessons will include a variety of games, songs and drama and the children will also have the opportunity to read familiar stories in French.

**HOW YOU CAN HELP AT HOME:** by continuing to support your child in their rapid recall of known single digit addition facts and their times tables. This will benefit their learning of new techniques in Maths, enabling them to solve more calculations and so embed newly acquired skills more rapidly.

Equally, it is important to continue with listening to your child read on a regular basis, ensuring you talk about what is happening, why it is happening and what might happen next. These are key skills in developing a comprehensive understanding of texts. Reading aloud also helps develop your child's understanding of punctuation and the ways in which it is used to define both meaning and expression within a text.