

Foundation Stage Topic Web Newsletter

Class/Year: Nursery

Term: Autumn 2

Introduction to topic/theme:

This half term we will be looking at the topic 'Under the Sea'. We will have an exciting visitor in our classroom who we will have to learn to look after. We will also be learning about different sea creatures, what they eat and what is special about them. We will also learn about what it is like under the sea.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- We will be looking at how we can be kind to our friends and how to be a good friend.
- We will be using the mood board to help us to understand how our friends are feeling each day and what we can do to help them.
- We will have circle time activity on a Friday to discuss kindness and helping others.

Physical Development

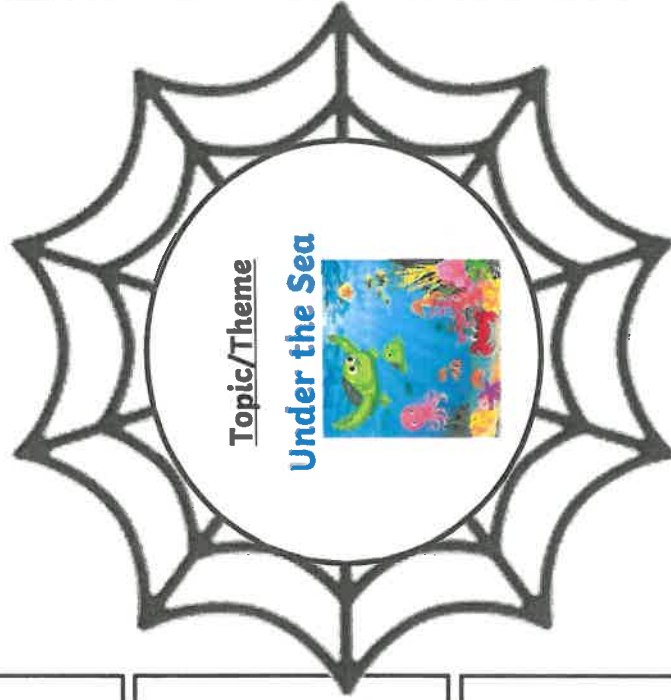
- Practising dressing ourselves and putting on our own coats, hats, scarfs and gloves
- Finger gym activities to develop fine motor skills
- Developing ball skills - controlling a ball with our feet, catching and throwing with a partner, how to use these safely etc.

Expressive Arts and Design

- Making marks on a big scale to help our gross motor skills.
- Creating sea creature masks using a range of materials and writing equipment.
- Fact files for the different sea creatures.
- Sea creature crafts exploring different textures and colours using a range of different media.
- Learning a variety of under the sea songs.

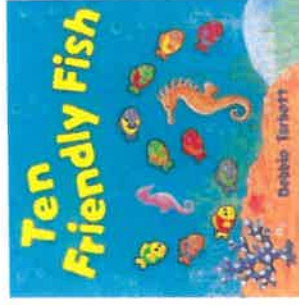
Homework

Please note that we will be providing children with homework tasks to complete from Autumn 2.



Communication, Language & Literacy

The children will be introduced to a wide range of reading material to fuel their interest in reading. We will learn a class poem, as well as reading the stories below in class. We will do lots of activities around them, focusing on developing our listening and attention skills as well as our ability to recall key characters and main events.



Mathematics

- Counting from 0 to 10.
- Sorting objects into groups according to shape, colour and size.
- Number 1 – recognising the numeral, representing 1 and subitising 1.
- Number 2 – recognising the numeral, representing 2 and subitising 2.
- Recognising and completing AB and ABC patterns.

Understanding the World

We will be learning about celebrations such as Halloween, Bonfire night and Christmas. Children will talk about customs and traditions that are important to them and we will begin to understand more about other communities. We will also notice changes to the environment and our school grounds as Autumn turns into Winter.

Ideas to try at home

- Go on an Autumn Walk and collect fallen leaves. Create a leaf printing picture using autumnal colours and bring this in to share with the other children.
- Practise counting in different ways – counting steps, jumps, hops, etc.
- Decorate a festive card with your child for someone that is important to them.
- Practise getting dressed at home. Can your child put on and take off their jumper/cardigan independently? Can they put on their own coat? Can they put on their own hat?

Foundation Stage Topic Web Newsletter
Class/Year: Reception
Term: Autumn 2

Introduction to topic/theme:

This half term we will be looking at the topic 'Come Fly with Me'. We will be learning all about maps, looking at both our local area and places further away like London. Through this topic we will also learn how to care for our environment. Whilst looking closely at the environment, we will observe what happens as the seasons change. We will also begin to understand Bonfire Night, Diwali, Chinese New Year and Christmas.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Developing our relationships with our friends and thinking about how we can be kind and look after one another – Links to World Kindness Day on Saturday 13th November.
- Thinking about how our actions impact others and celebrating Anti-Bullying Week commencing Monday 14th November.

Physical Development

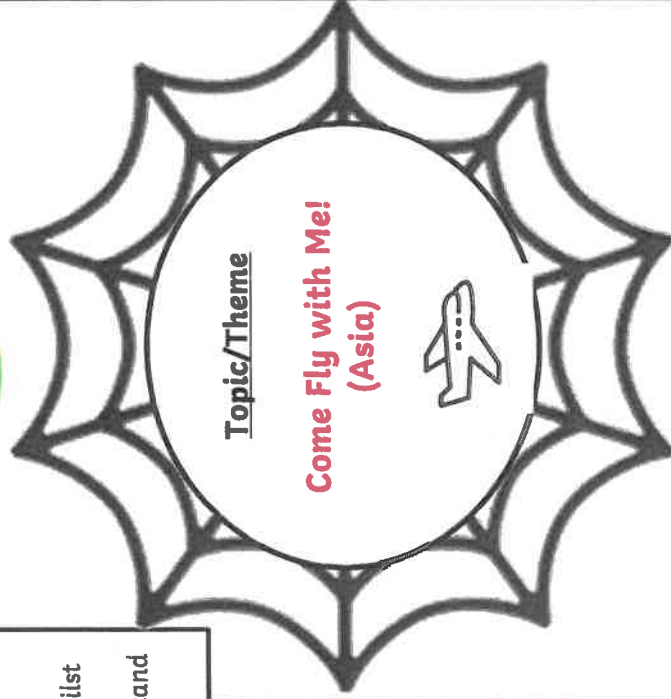
- Finger gym activities to develop fine motor skills
- Manipulating malleable materials to create models of relevant objects e.g. Diya lamps for Diwali
- Observing the effect of activity on our bodies
- Working on dressing ourselves, e.g. hats, gloves, coats and scarves etc.

Expressive Arts and Design

- Autumn inspired collages
- Observational drawings of animals/maps/places
- Firework pictures – blow/splatter painting
- Making Christmas cards for people we love
- Exploring music and how this makes us feel
- Creating festive decorations and ornaments

Homework

Please note that we will be giving out homework on a weekly basis. This will be each Wednesday. We will be giving each child their own book to take home to complete this work in. Each week they will receive a piece of Phonics work. Additionally, one week they will receive English work and the following week they will receive Mathematics. This will work on a two-week rota.



Communication, Language & Literacy

Children will continue to explore a wide variety of reading materials to fuel their love for reading. Our key texts for the half term are below. We will focus on recalling, sequencing and retelling stories.



Mathematics

- Representing numbers
- Learning to subitize
- Exploring shape and their properties in greater detail
- Using positional language
- Exploring our routines

Understanding the World

Children will be learning about their environments and how they change over time. We will be looking at maps and understanding how to read them. We will observe changes from Autumn to Winter and will also be learning about celebrations such as Bonfire Night, Diwali, Chinese New Year and Christmas as well as how to keep safe as the days get darker, e.g. wearing appropriate clothing and ensuring we are always safe around fireworks. Children will also go on Autumn walks on the school grounds and visit the Wildlife Garden.

Ideas to try at home

- Look up nocturnal animals and their habitats. Ask your child to pick their favourite animal and create a fact card about it, e.g. What does it look like? Where does it sleep? What does it like to eat? etc.
- Collect a range of Autumn leaves when out for a walk. Challenge your child to sort them by colour, size and shape.
- Practise getting dressed independently with your child. Can they put their own coat on? Gloves? Socks? Etc.
- Create a bird feeder with your child using kitchen towel roll, peanut butter and bird seeds. What birds do you attract? Can your child draw them?



Brackenhill Primary School Curriculum Newsletter

Year 1 – Spruce and Pine

Theme this half term: Come fly with me: Arctic circle

Dear Parents & Carers,

It was an exciting and busy half term in Autumn 1. We had a successful pizza day and the chance to decorate our own biscuit. We then wrote instructions on how to decorate a biscuit. We had an African drumming workshop and made our own clay pots!

This half term, we are looking forward to more fantastic learning. We will be looking at seasonal changes as we move from autumn into winter. We will be celebrating Diwali and commemorating Remembrance Day, so look out for the work we produce on our weekly class blog. Our topic unit is based on the Arctic region and surroundings, with a key focus on geography. Pupils will learn about the location, weather and climate in the Arctic, as well as the wildlife that lives there. Inuit people, their traditions and customs, will also be studied.

What will we be learning about
and how can you help your child?

English: We will learn the story of the 3 little pigs and innovate it. We will be writing a poem about autumn and winter. You can also act out the story at home with your child to help them remember the key plot points.

Maths: Addition and subtraction within 10 and Geometry. You can help your child by practising:

- Counting on from any number to add
- Using jumps on a number line to add and subtract
- The names of basic 2D and 3D shapes

Science: Living Things and their Habitats. We will describe how different habitats provide for the needs of plants and animals and how they depend on each other. We will describe and observe changes across the seasons. We will explore materials and their properties and find out how shapes can be changed through investigations and experiments.

Theme:

In Art, we will use a range of materials creatively to make a 3D Form / Collage related to the Inukshuks. In computing we will explore multimedia and pictograms. In Music, we will learn Inuit throat singing. In PSHE, we will look at friendships and healthy eating. In DT, we will explore and use mechanisms to create moving pictures. In geography, we will look at weather and climate features and learn how to use maps and globes. In dance we will learn Inuit drum dancing. We will create, repeat and perform short dances from a prompt. In history, we will learn about the Inuit people and their traditions and customs, using sources of information to find out about the past.

You can help your child by researching who the Inuit people were. You could explore how the seasons change by observing the changes outside over the next few weeks.

Reminders

PE Days: Monday (Pine & Spruce) Our focus is dance.

Times tables to practise at home : 2, 5 and 10

Reading: Please can you ensure that your child is reading their reading book every day at home. You could help your child become fluent in reading the red words and the story green words. If they are struggling to read any of the words in the book, don't forget to encourage them to use Fred Talk.

Spelling: Every Friday the children have a spelling test. Please practise spelling the words daily with your child.

Diwali Day – Wednesday 2nd November – Party in the afternoon.

Creative homework: Write a poem about snow and ice. A new animal has been discovered at the North Pole. Can you name, describe and draw it?

Spellings for the half term

1 31/10/22	2 7/11/22	3 14/11/22	4 21/11/22	5 28/11/22	6 5/12/22	7 12/12/22
ng, nk	ch, tch	v, ve	ay, oy	ee, e	igh	ar
bank	chip	van	play	me	right	car
think	rich	wet	way	she	bright	start
sunk	much	have	stay	we	light	park
sing	catch	live	boy	see	night	arm
hang	fetch	give	enjoy	tree	tight	garden
long	kitchen	above	royal	green	high	artist
there	here	come	ask	so	do	today
where	love	some	friend	one	to	of



Brackenhill Primary School Curriculum Newsletter



Year 2 – Holly and Maple

Theme this half term: Paddington's Passport & Zero to Hero.

Dear Parents & Carers,

We have had a very busy half term. We have been very impressed with how the children have settled quickly into their new routines. Well done Y2!

They will continue to participate in many exciting activities and new learning over the coming few weeks.

What will we be learning about and how can you help your child?

English: As writers, this half term we will be using the fairy tale: Jack and The Beanstalk. For our fiction writing we will be writing our own alternative fairy tale.

For our non-fiction, we will be writing a persuasive leaflet trying to convince people to go and see the pantomime about Jack and The Beanstalk. You can help your child by reading or listening to various traditional tales.

Maths: Addition and Subtraction. This will involve using single digit numbers and moving on to 2-digit numbers using simple column methods. Can your child count up to 100 and back?

We will also be looking at shapes. You can help your child spot 2D shapes in the environment.

Theme: Geography. We will be using maps and atlases to locate the U.K and the different continents across the world. Support your child by watching the weather together on the T.V. Can they find the capital cities of the U.K? Can they locate Bradford on the map?

Theme: History- We will be finding out about significant people and events from the past and what made them successful. You could help your child by researching the scientist Thomas Edison. You could use the internet or books.

Reading

We would like to remind you of the importance of reading at home with your child. The effect of reading just 15 minutes a day with your child has an astonishing effect on your child's reading!

Reading books are given out on Friday and are collected back in the next Wednesday. Please help your child to keep their reading books safe in their book bags and bring book bags to school every day!

Reminders

PE: Year 2 have PE on Tuesday.

Water: Please encourage your child to bring a water bottle to school everyday so that they can stay hydrated. Please rinse out water bottles each night.

Times tables: Please support your child in practising the 2 and 10 times table at home.

Diwali Day – Wednesday 2nd November – Party in the afternoon

Spellings for the half term

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
1. camel	1. key	1. pencil	1. cry
2. tunnel	2. monkey	2. fossil	2. fly
3. travel	3. donkey	3. pupil	3. dry
4. cancel	4. chimney	4. animal	4. shy
5. towel	5. valley	5. capital	5. terrify
6. tinsel	6. hockey	6. metal	6. multiply
7. I	7. your	7. he	7. me
8. you	8. they	8. he	8. she
9. both	9. cold	9. hold	9. every
10. old	10. gold	10. told	10. great

Week 5	Week 6	Week 7
1. flies	1. planned	1. running
2. tries	2. dropped	2. winning
3. replies	3. robbed	3. swimming
4. babies	4. slipped	4. flipping
5. families	5. dragged	5. hitting
6. cries	6. chatted	6. chatting
7. we	7. go	7. by
8. no	8. so	8. my
9. break	9. pretty	9. hour
10. steak	10. beautiful	10. Christmas



Brackenhill Primary School Curriculum Newsletter



Year 3 – Willow and Ash

Theme this half term: Come Fly with Me - Africa.

Dear Parents & Carers,

The children have had a fantastic first half term, learning all about animations and have participated in a variety of exciting lessons. This included making their own flip books, a model of a zoetrope, stop motion animations as well as looked at the history of how animations have developed and advanced over time.

As the Autumn term continues, we would like to kindly remind you of the importance of reading at home with your child. Reading for just 20 minutes a day with your child has an astonishing effect on your child's reading so please try to do this as often as you can with your child. Each child has been given a log-in for the online reading platform "MyOn" – which has over 1000 books on it! Please also work with your child to learn their spellings which you will find listed below for this half term. Please also work with your child to help them practise their 3, 4 and 8 times tables.

Thank you for your continued support.

What will we be learning about and how can you help your child?

English: Narrative – The children will be reading Robinson Crusoe. They will be identifying and understanding the different language features that have been used within the text in order to make it an effective piece of writing. They will then re-write a version of Robinson Crusoe, set in Antarctica. We will also be producing a leaflet in order to persuade a set target audience to visit Antarctica. You can help your child by looking at persuasive leaflets with them and discussing the different layouts of these. If you have any books about Antarctica, this will be an added bonus in supporting them to produce their leaflet.

Maths: We will be continuing to work on addition and subtraction of up to three-digit numbers. We will then move on to multiplication and division. Can you write some multiplication and division problems using 3-digit numbers? Support your child in using a strategy to solve the problems.

Theme: This half term there will be a big focus on Geography as we will be exploring the similarities and differences of the human and physical geography of Dover and France. We will then move on to exploring African tradition and cultures, make 3D animal masks, explore African food as well as learn the history of the Early Benin Period. You can help your child by researching any of the topics that we will cover in order to provide them with a baseline understanding before we learn them in school. This can be achieved by the use of internet of any books that you may have at home.

Reminders

PE Days – Ash (Thursday) Willow (Thursday)

Please ensure water bottles are taken home daily, washed, and then returned the following day with fresh water.

Your child will either be bringing home a reading book or should use their MyOn log-in to read online. Please can you try to listen to them read and then when they have completed the book, they will take a quiz in school about what they have read. When they complete the quiz, they will change their book for a new one.

Diwali Day – Wednesday 2nd November – Party in the afternoon.

Spellings for the half term

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
Slowly	Unfortunately	Dislike	Misplace
Suddenly	Unkind	Disable	Mistake
Quietly	Undo	Disappear	Misread
Surprisingly	Untie	Disobey	Misbehave
Anxiously	Unhappy	Disappoint	Misunderstand
Centre	Circle	Continue	Different
Century	Complete	Describe	Difficult
Certain	Consider	Decide	Disappear
Attentive	Frequent	Hostile	Imitate

Week 5	Week 6	Week 7
Incorrect	Illegal	Irrational
Incomplete	Illness	Irrelevant
Inconsiderate	Illuminate	Irreversible
Insecure	Illogical	Irresponsible
Insensitive	Illustrate	Irregular
Early	Eighth	Experience
Earth	Enough	Experiment
Eight	Exercise	Extreme
Gradual	Crumple	Drowsy



Brackenhill Primary School Curriculum Newsletter



Year 4- Cedar and Larch

Our theme this half term is: Cry Freedom

Dear Parents & Carers,

We would like to thank all Year 4 children for all their hard work this half term. They have all settled in really well and have shown how grown up they have become.

We have been very impressed with how the children are learning their times tables in class and at home. The results at the end of the week show how their hard work is paying off. Keep it up Year 4!

We will also be sending home your child's usernames and passwords so that they can access online platforms to help them learn: Accelerated reader, Myon, TT Rockstar and Purple Mash.

What will we be learning about and how can you help your child?

English: We will be starting off with a Narrative. We will be reading the text 'Street Child' to help us write an adventure story on how to escape a work house. We will then write a debate- Should child labour be banned in the Victorian Times? You can help your child at home by researching child labour in the Victorian era.

Maths: We will be starting off with finding the area of squares and rectangles. Our main focus for the rest of the half term will be multiplication and division. Can your child learn their times tables with division facts? Can you time them to see how fast they are each time?

Theme: Science Light. Are you able to help your child name all the sources of light in your house? Can your child find the definitions to the following key words: shadows, reflection, light and dark?

Art and Design: We will be focussing on Mixed Media (Graffiti): We will aim to improve our mastery of art and design techniques, including drawing, painting and sculpture with a range of materials. Can your child find out the names of some famous graffiti artists?

History: We will be learning about slavery in different continents and we will be looking at different forms of slavery and how a slave's identity is lost. It would be great if you could discuss with your child, who named them and what their name means! Can your child research any key figures involved in the abolition of slavery?

Reminders

PE is on Monday for Cedar and Larch class this half term.

Please ensure water bottles are taken home daily and washed, returned the following day with fresh water.

Reminder that snack at breaktimes should only be fruit. No crisps, chocolates or sweets are allowed to be eaten at breaktimes.

We would like to kindly remind you of the importance of reading at home with your child. The effect of reading for just 20 minutes a day with your child has an astonishing effect on your child's reading, so please try to do this as often as you can with your child. Children should bring their reading books into school each day so they can change their books as soon as they have completed a test in class. Most children will know their logins to access Myon at home. Please ask your children about this and discuss what they are reading.

In Year 4, there will be a big focus on times tables. Please ensure that children are taking time out to complete their weekly homework and have an opportunity to learn their times tables through TT Rockstars and Mathsframe websites too.

Diwali Day – Wednesday 2nd November – Party in the afternoon.

Spellings for the half term

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7
Predict	department	revise	interval	impatient	immature	gardening
Preview	decline	reappear	intercept	imperfect	immoral	beginning
Prequel	deactivate	rearrange	interfere	important	immobilise	listening
Prepare	depress	replay	intersect	impossible	immigrant	upsetting
Precise	deforest	recount	intexam	impress	immense	travelling
different	difficult	right	experience	favourite	grammar	heard
continue	disappear	eight	experiment	February	group	heart
decide	early	enough	extreme	forwards	guard	height
describe	earth	exercise	famous	fruit	guide	history
engrass	fearsome	conquer	useful	cringe	inhale	sabotage



Brackenhill Primary School Curriculum Newsletter



Year 5 – Beech and Aspen

Our theme this half term is: **Come Fly With Me!**

Dear Parents & Carers,

The children have had an excellent first half term learning all about space, and have participated in so many exciting lessons. This included painting their own planets using a variety of colours and textures, writing some intriguing stories about travels to other wonderful planets and recreating the orbit of the moon and Earth around the sun using their bodies to demonstrate the rotation!

As the autumn term continues, we would like to kindly remind you of the importance of reading at home with your child. The effect of reading for just 20 minutes a day with your child has an astonishing effect on your child's reading so please try to do this as often as you can with your child. Each child has been given a log-in for the online reading platform "MyOn" – which has over 1000 books on it! Please also work with your child to learn their spellings which you will find listed below for this half term. By the end of Year 4 children should know all their times table so we are taking the opportunity in Year 5 to revisit them all, starting with the 2's, increasing week by week.

Thank you for your continued support.

What will we be learning about and how can you help your child?

English: Persuasive Leaflet – You can help your child by reading a variety of leaflets and discussing the different layouts of these. If you have any books about China - this will be an added bonus as your child will write a persuasive leaflet to encourage people to visit Hong Kong! Narrative- We will also write a character description of the gruesome troll from "Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone" by J.K. Rowling. Discussing effective adjectives will help with this.

Maths: Over this half term, we will be looking at place value, addition and subtraction and multiplication and division. You can help your child by asking them the value of each digit within a number. You may ask them to show you the methods we use in school for addition and subtraction and then set them some questions at home. We will also do arithmetic sessions once a week so helping your child learn facts like number bonds to 10, 20 and 100 or near doubles (9+9, 8+8 etc.) would be really helpful!

Theme: We will have a great focus on Geography this half term, as we compare the geographical features of Hong Kong with New York. We will also discuss why people choose to migrate to / from these places. Discussing examples of migration within own family or friends and why they chose to do this would be helpful for children with their discussions in class. We will also start to look at the Americas, learning about culture and traditions of the USA, the history of indigenous Americans, as well as learning a bit of Line Dancing! Yee-ha!

Reminders

PE: This half term, Beech is on a **Wednesday** and Aspen is on a **Friday**

Please ensure water bottles are taken home daily, washed, and then returned the following day with fresh water (not cordial).

Your child will either be bringing home a reading book or should use their MyOn log-in to read online, 3x per week. Please can you try to listen to them read and then when they have completed the book they will take a quiz in school about what they have read. When they complete the quiz, they will change their book for a new one.

Diwali Day – Wednesday 2nd November – Party in the afternoon.

Spellings for the half term

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6
significance	intelligence	believable	fallible	believably	terribly
arrogance	emergence	movable	sensible	admirably	sensibly
extravagance	coincidence	adorable	visible	avoidably	incredibly
alliance	residence	noticeable	possible	affordably	visibly
compliance	preference	enforceable	quillible	consider	possibly
business	caught	century	circle	continue	decide
calendar	centre	certain	complete	disastrous	describe
correspond	curiosity	desperate	develop	embarrass	environment
criticise	definite	determined	dictionary		equipped

Times tables

This half term we are looking at the 7x, 8x, 9x, 10, 11x 12x tables. Please make sure you practise these at home but also recap the 2x-6x times tables too as we use them all the time in maths lessons! Shout them, whisper them, say them backwards and please make sure you do the inverse too!



Bracken hill Primary School Curriculum Newsletter

Year 6 – Rowan and Sequoia

Theme this half term: I Have a Dream....

Dear Parents & Carers,

We have had a fantastic start to the academic year. It has been a very busy but very exciting half term! We have made so much fun learning about inventions and how they have evolved over time. We've enjoyed making our own cars and designing and making greetings cards for different occasions. We even took the opportunity to explore colour combinations for our brand names and logos.

This half term, we will be learning about the history of our locality by looking at some local landmarks and how they have changed over time. We will also be learning about the Civil Rights movements around the world which will involve learning about Martin Luther King, Rosa Parks and Nelson Mandela.

What will we be learning about and how can you help your child?

English: Journey Jo'burg by Beverly Naidoo – You can help your child by reading a variety of historical fiction stories. You can research with your child about influential black people in British society such as Marcus Rashford, Jessica Ennis-Hill or even Trevor McDonald!

Maths: Fractions and measures. You can help your child by noticing how they are used in their daily lives. Help them to measure using a range of equipment such as rulers, weighing scales, measuring tapes and jugs.

Science: Evolution and inheritance. Can your child find about how three different animals evolved over time? Can they find out research the work of palaeontologists such as Mary Anning or Mary Leaky? Can you help your child find out about the work of important scientists such as Charles Darwin?

History. You can help your child by talking about fairness, equality and prejudice. You may also want to explore the impact of the Civil Rights movement by researching about Martin Luther King and Nelson Mandela.

Music – Listen to music by Black musicians such as Marvin Gay, Smokey Robinson, Stevie Wonder, Aretha Franklin or Beyonce.

Art – Go on walks around the local area and see if you can spot any fascinating sculptures and statues.

As the term progresses, we would like to kindly remind you of the importance of reading at home with your child. The effect of reading just 20 minutes a day with your child has an astonishing effect on your child's reading. Don't forget, children have the opportunity to read a range of exciting books on:

<https://www.myon.co.uk/login/>. Look out for any homework projects or reading bundles we may set you for homework.

Please also work with your child on their spelling (see below) and practise all their times tables and related division facts.

Thank you for your continued support.

Reminders

PE Days: Sequoia – Thursday Rowan -Thursday

Times tables to practise at home: All times tables up to 12x12.

Reading: Please can you ensure that your child is reading regularly at home. They should be aiming to finish at least 1 book a week so they can take an accelerated reader quiz in school.

Diwali Day – Wednesday 2nd November – Party in the afternoon.

Dimensions Task:

This half term we are looking at civil rights. Can you create a storyboard about Rosa Parks and what happened on the 1st of December 1955?

Create a slogan about tackling racism and create a placard to use at a protest.

Spellings for the half term

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7
flower	paring (separating closely)	non-slick	re-enter	ill-natured	parliament	government
fowl	pausing (pausing)	non-slip	re-employ	ill-	describe	handsome
allowed	planning (planning)	non-strip	pre-	tempered	prosperous	raspberry
flour	mourning (to feel sorrow)	non-stop	arrange	ill-timed	stationary	castle
foul	mourning (grieving)	non-fiction	co-own	ill-gotten	frightening	doubt
aloud			co-operate	ill-used	memorable	crumb

Word of the Week:

Ask your child what their word of the week is. What does it mean? Help them use it in a sentence.