



Mansfield Primary Academy

The MacArthur's Class Newsletter

Autumn Term 2019



World War One

This year at Mansfield Primary we are excited to be following a new curriculum that will allow our children to be involved more with their local community, and we are hoping that our first topic of World War One will provide greater opportunities for this. The topic will run alongside the Year 5 class as we collate ideas and share work to really understand our past, and the great sacrifices our heroes made to enable us to live in the world as we know it today. We will be using the novel *Warhorse* as the key text that underpins our learning.



Around the World!

Our first topic of the year involves looking at, and following, the journey that Dame Ellen MacArthur followed on her route to becoming the World Record holder for the fastest solo-circumnavigation of the globe. A true inspiration!



Christmas!

Whilst Santa's visit may seem like a long time away, we are still excited about the amazing opportunities that this time of year presents to us. Keep an eye out for updates on school trips, visitors in to school, productions, concerts and much more! As we move forward with our new and exciting curriculum, we will have plenty more to keep you up to date with!

Rainbow Grammar

A new scheme has been welcomed in to our school, and all of us are excited to teach and learn about grammar through the use of colour! We are hoping that when combined with an increased focus on vocabulary and presentation, Rainbow Grammar will enhance our writing and make it easier to be even more creative.

English

English lessons will begin with a focus on our new concept of Rainbow Grammar, once the children are familiar with the high expectations and layout of the new scheme, we will be able to explore multiple genres of writing, starting with letters written from the perspective of the Horse in *Warhorse*. This may seem farfetched, but seeing life through the eyes of another being can become a really powerful tool for learning and creating a tolerance and understanding of others. We will be spending time drafting, editing, redrafting, editing and presenting our work! This is because all good authors do not write a novel in one sitting, they spend hours editing their work to ensure that it is to the highest standard possible, and this is an example that we will be following.

Spellings, Reading books and Homework

Spellings will be given out on a Monday and then the children will be tested the following Friday where new spellings will be given.

Homework will be focusing on maths, reading and grammar, and will also be handed out on a Friday but will need to be handed in by the following Wednesday for marking.

Reading books are changed and reading records are checked every school day, please ensure that diaries have a signature of an adult in them.



P.E Kits

PE will be on a **Monday and Friday**, so please ensure that your child has their PE kit in school on these days. However, PE could take place at any time, so it's easier if your child brings their PE kit in on a Monday and leaves it in school all week to take home Friday for washing, ready for the following week.

Maths

In the first unit of Year 6, pupils are refining their knowledge of place value, working with numbers between 1 000 000 and 10 000 000. They begin the chapter reading and writing numbers to 10 000 000 using number discs, numerals and words. An additional lesson using an abacus is provided to deepen and extend their sense of number and place value. Pupils are then asked to round and compare numbers to 10 000 000, followed by placing them in order from smallest to greatest. The unit ends with pupils rounding numbers to various values and determining when it is appropriate to round numbers.

In the four operations on whole numbers unit, pupils will be exploring the four operations, in combination and in isolation. The unit begins with lessons on creating and solving expressions involving brackets, exponents, multiplication, division, addition and subtraction. Pupils are then multiplying 3- and 4-digit numbers by 2-digit numbers using number bonds and column multiplication as the key methods. After this, they are estimating the product of multiplication sentences before moving on to division. Pupils are dividing 3- and 4-digit numbers by 2-digit numbers using a variety of methods, including number bonds and long division. Pupils then begin solving more complex word problems involving multiple operations, with bar models being a main heuristic in addition to other pictorial methods. Pupils are then challenged by finding common multiples and common factors before ending the unit exploring prime numbers.

Dates for your diary

3rd September - Back to school
13th September - School Photographs
18th September - 20th September - Year 6 Residential
15th & 16th October - Parent/Teacher Meetings
18th October - Last day of Autumn term 1
4th November - INSET DAY
5th November - Back to school
11th December - KS2 Pantomime Visit
18th December - Christmas Dinner
18th December - Christmas Fayre
21st December - Break up for Christmas
7th January - Back to school



We look forward to working with you and your child this half term, and it is great that we can all continue the hard work that we started last year to make sure that everyone achieves their best. We have certainly hit the ground running already!

*Mr Derry, Mr Edwards, Mrs Bacon
and Miss Davis*