



Finches Class Newsletter

Our new topic is Feathered Friends



How to help your child at home this term:

1. Use the Internet to support your child's learning:
 - Visit the BBC Bitesize for Key Stage 1 website www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/ and have a go at some of the fun activities there for Literacy, Maths or Science.
 - Visit the website www.rspb.org.uk/discoverandenjoynature/families/children/play/ to check out some great games by the RSPB.
 - Also take a look at the Topmarks website which has lots of fantastic educational links and this one about spring www.topmarks.co.uk/Spring/WhatIsSpring.aspx
 - Visit Purplemash and search 'birds' in the search bar for several bird related activities.
 - Visit www.thinkuknow.co.uk for some really good advice about online safety with videos and activities for children to do.
 - If you download this newsletter as a PDF from the school website all the links above will take you directly to the sites.
2. There are plenty of practical activities you can do together which don't involve the internet such as going for a walk and looking for signs of Spring and spotting different British birds. You could keep a diary or record, e.g. a tally chart, of the birds you spot together to share at school.

Spring Term 2 – Feb/March 2020

Mrs. Katie Palmer



Science

As scientists we will be:

- Learning about the characteristics of birds including their structure.
- Bird watching and using our senses to guide us into making observations and new discoveries.
- Studying birds in the school grounds.
- Understanding the life cycle of a bird, in particular that of a chicken and looking closely at eggs and feathers.
- Naming different birds, looking closely at British birds.
- Using video clips and first hand observations to learn about British birds.
- Growing edible plants and understanding what plants need to grow.
- Making bug hotels.



Computing

We shall be:

- Learning about e-safety with Lee and Kim from the very useful thinkuknow website.
- Using Purplemash to explore making music.

PE

- Invasion games
- Dance

Special Events

St. David's Day, Sunday 1st March
World Book Day, Thursday 5th March
bedtime reading theme
Drumming performance in the hall with Mr. Doyle 2.45pm Monday 9th March
St. Patrick's Day, Tuesday 17th March
Mother's Day, Sunday 22nd March
Egg decorating competition, last week

Music

As musicians we will:

- Respond to Classical music.
- Explore and express ideas and feelings about the music: *The Swan* by Saint-Saëns.
- Understand how sounds can be made in different ways.
- Play tuned and un-tuned instruments.
- Organise musical ideas to make a group composition.



Art/DT

As artists and designers we will:

- Use imagination and real life observations to develop art work in sketch books.
- Learn about farming, produce and healthy eating.
- Be planning a teddy bear's picnic and designing and making our own healthy picnic skewers.



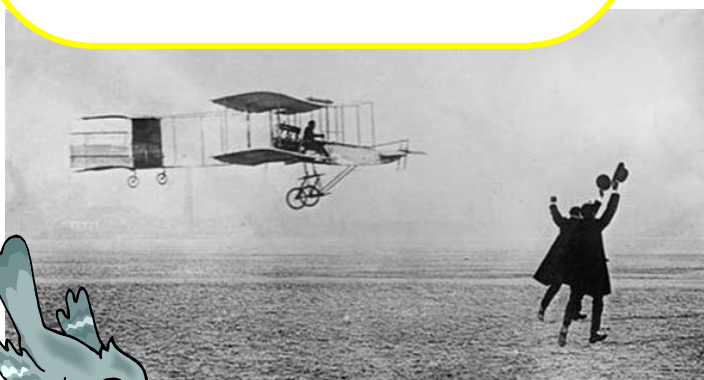
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History/Geography

We will be:

- Learning about the first flights and the Wright Brothers with a special Wright Brothers day.
- Using basic geographical vocabulary to refer to key physical and key human features.
- Using the story Rosie's Walk and our own toy hen to explore the school and its grounds.
- Using aerial photographs and planning perspectives to recognise landmarks and basic human and physical features; devising a simple map; and using and constructing basic symbols in a key.
- Conducting travel and traffic surveys.



Library day is on a Friday
Your child will choose a book to share with you at home. Please return for the following Friday.
Thank you.

RE

In RE we will examine:

- Events in the life of Jesus.
- How important Jesus is to Christians and who is important to us.
- How do Christians celebrate Easter?



Mathematics Year 2

Doubling and halving.

Halves and quarters.

Use place value and number facts to solve problems, e.g. $60 - \square = 20$.

Add a 2-digit number and 10s; add two 2-digit numbers that total less than 100 by counting on in 10s and 1s.

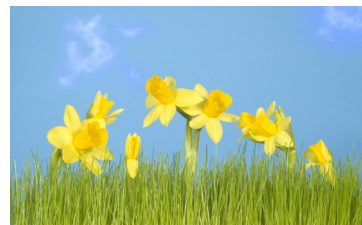
Count back in 1s or 10s or use number facts to take away, e.g. $27 - 3 =$ or $54 - 20 =$.

Telling the time, to half an hour, quarter past and quarter to on analogue and digital clocks.

PSHE/SMSC

We will be:

- Keeping Healthy.
- Thinking about changes.
- Looking at how people prepare for and celebrate St. David's day in Wales.
- Looking at how people prepare for and celebrate St. Patrick's Day in Northern Ireland.
- Road safety training sessions with a Road Safety Officer from Northumberland County Council.



Water Bottles

Please bring water bottles in daily.



English

As readers we will be reading a range of instruction and information texts. We will be writing our own instructions and a story based on the text Shh! We Have a Plan.

Please make sure your child has their reading packet in school and encourage them to say if their book needs changing. The most valuable homework you can do with your child is reading together to improve fluency and talking about what you have read to help with comprehension. Remember to practise any words or sounds in their plastic wallets as well.

The children will continue to receive spelling homework every Friday and are working hard on their letter formation (please encourage your child to form their letters correctly at home, checking particularly 'b' and 'd' and that they are holding their pencil correctly).

Acceptable grips:



Tripod Grip



Quadropod Grip

