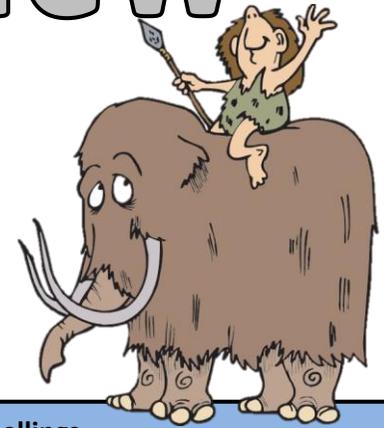


Year 4 Spring 1 Overview

Dear Parents,

Our topic for this half term is 'THE STONE AGE' and will be based around the study of this period in history, rocks and fossils. A brief overview of each curricular area can be found overleaf, which I hope you will find helpful.

Thank you.



Reading

Children are expected to read for at least twenty minutes each night to accompany the Guided Reading sessions, and other reading opportunities, presented in class. It would be very much appreciated if you could sign your child's 'Home School Diary' to enable us to keep a clear record of which books the children have read, and where they are up to within the reading scheme. Books can be changed as soon as they have been read, and signed off, and children are encouraged to do this as often as possible.

Homework

Children will continue to receive maths homework to complete on 'Mathletics' which can be found at <http://uk.mathletics.com> and on 'Times Table Rock Stars', <https://trockstars.com/>. All children have been given their own usernames and passwords (stuck into their 'Home School Diary') and they should be able to log in from home. Forty-five minutes of Maths homework will be set each week on a Friday to be completed for the following Friday. If you have any problems accessing the system at home, please do get in touch.

In addition to this, children will be asked to complete topic homework every half term. Six activities will be presented to the children, of which they must complete at least two of their own choosing. Two activities must be completed independently, marked with an 'I'. To receive a 'Homework Star' award, children should complete at least four pieces to a high standard, alongside their daily reading. Children can bring in their homework as, and when, it is completed where it will be displayed around the classroom.

Spellings

Along with the topic homework, children will also receive a list of age appropriate words at the beginning of each half term to be learnt at home. Random spelling tests will then take place in English lessons throughout the half term. This is to promote a deeper, long-term retention of the spelling, assess learning and identify any areas which require further reinforcement.



If you have any questions please feel free to come and speak to me at home time, make an appointment or email me at: staff@broughtonprimary.co.uk. Thank you very much for your support.

Yours sincerely,
Ms. Lowe

English

This half term will begin with children reading 'Ug: Boy Genius of the Stone Age'. During this unit, children will make comparisons, use book talk to respond to the text, analyse character traits and emotions, debate views and opinions and create information booklets.

After this, children will move on to read 'Pebble in my Pocket' with a focus on poetry and non-chronological reports.

Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar

Children will understand the terms 'prefix' and 'suffix', identify different examples to create word families and begin to use them in their writing more consistently.

PE

Year 4 will continue with swimming lessons this half term and will also take part in gymnastics lesson on a Friday morning, led by a specialist coach. It is vital that your child has their PE kit in school at all times and that every item of clothing is clearly named.

Thank you!

Maths

To begin, children will develop their understanding of multiplication and division including use of a formal written method and problem solving.

Later in the term, children will spend time studying area and fractions including fractions of quantities and non-unit fractions.

Finally, we will spend time studying decimals, recognising the equivalence between decimals and fractions and solve simple measure and money problems to 2 decimal places.

History

During this half term, children will explore what life was like during the Stone Age, comparing it to their own. Following this, we will investigate the role of the hunter-gather with 'The History Man', Adrian Warrell. Finally, the children will continue to develop their understanding of 'duration', identifying how Britain changed from the Palaeolithic to the Neolithic periods.

Spanish

This term we will learn how to talk about our birthdays, our likes and dislikes, days, months and fruit.

Music

Children will continue to take part in weekly music lessons with Mr Scott-Thomas on a Tuesday afternoon.

Science

Our focus in Science this half term involves the study of rocks and soils. The children will identify the typical properties of different rocks and soils, how they are formed, as well as the process by which fossils are formed within such rock.

Children will have the following opportunities to conduct practical experiments and/or scientific research; collecting and analysing soil samples from around the school grounds and testing/comparing the properties of a range of rocks/stones.

Art

Children will begin by exploring cave paintings created during the Stone Age. They will then create their own impressed and relief printing blocks, in the style of a cave painting, as well as experimenting with repeating patterns and multi-colour overlays.

Geography

Children will use map skills to locate key areas of interest linked to the Stone Age on different types of maps.

RE

Our unit for this half term is *Jesus the Son of God, how did Jesus show his power and authority?* We will think about who Jesus was, his teaching and behaviour. By studying his miracles and reading from the Gospels we will learn about Jesus' life, his baptism, his healing and the impact of his teaching on people's lives and events in history, such as apartheid in South Africa and the civil rights movement in the USA.