

Neptune Class Newsletter

Term 2



Dear Parents and Carers,

Hope you all had a fantastic October half term! I am looking forward to another term with a brilliant group. This term we will continue to focus on the question, 'Was the Stone Age really savage?'

This term the children will start KS2 **phonics for spelling**. At the end of this newsletter there is more information about this in particular. Please have a read.

Our **art** lessons this term will be looking at the work of local Bristol Artist Jenny Jenkins. We will be learning the skills of using watercolour and mixed-media. The children will create a final piece with Stonehenge as a silhouette and a watercolour wash background in the style of Jenkins.

Our **English** learning will continue from the book we have been reading in guided reading lessons, 'The Firework Maker's Daughter,' by Phillip Pullman. This adventure story will encourage us to use and perfect the punctuation for direct speech and introduce our year 3s to fronted adverbials.

Maths - The focus for term 2 will be continuing our place value unit- focusing on rounding to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000. We will then be moving onto our addition and subtraction unit looking at the skill of the written column method eg.

Column Addition (no exchange)

Check you answer: $351 + 634 = 985$

Start here: $351 + 634 = 985$

Add the hundreds: $351 + 634 = 985$

Add the tens: $351 + 634 = 985$

Add the ones: $351 + 634 = 985$

Column Subtraction (no exchange)

Check you answer: $763 - 341 = 422$

Start here: $763 - 341 = 422$

Subtract the hundreds: $763 - 341 = 422$

Subtract the tens: $763 - 341 = 422$

Subtract the ones: $763 - 341 = 422$

Science this term will be physics looking at sounds (the knowledge organiser is on the school website.)

We will be learning and using new vocabulary across the term. Please support your child to use this language when talking about their learning at home.

Maths	English	Science	Curriculum
Rounding - Rounding numbers makes them 'easier' to use or understand whilst also	Fronted Adverbial Phrase – At the beginning of a sentence. It describes the verb in the	Volume - How 'loud' or 'quiet' a sound is. Muffle -To reduce the volume of a sound,	Palaeolithic - The 'Old' Stone Age Mesolithic - The 'Middle'

<p>keeping the number close to its original value. Instead of using exact numbers, simpler values can be used.</p> <p>Eg. 159 to the nearest 10 is 160.</p> <p>Subtraction- the process or skill of taking one number or amount away from another.</p> <p>Addition-the action or process of adding something to something else.</p>	<p>sentence. It describes where, when and how.</p> <p><i>As soon as the train had left the station, Tom jumped from the carriage door.</i></p> <p>Direct Speech- (Acronym to help remember the punctuation)</p> <p>S- speech marks</p> <p>C- capital letter</p> <p>A- actual speech</p> <p>P-punctuation</p> <p>S-speech marks</p>	<p>making it quieter - a wall will muffle a sound in a different room.</p> <p>Amplify-To increase the volume of a sound, making it louder - a megaphone will amplify a sound.</p> <p>Vibration-The shaking of soundwaves that create energy</p> <p>Decibels-The way we measure the level of sound in an area. The higher the decibel, the louder the sound.</p>	<p>Stone Age.</p> <p>Neolithic- The 'New' Stone Age.</p>
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Here is a link for the school website to access the knowledge organisers for this term: <https://www.northroadprimaryschool.co.uk/curriculum/>

Just a few reminders as we enter term 2:

Reading

It is expected that children will read daily, as part of their home learning. As a school, we expect reading books to be in school daily to allow for individual reading time and books should be transported to and from school in a folder or book bag.

If your child reaches a reading milestone, please inform me via Classroom Dojo - thank you.

Please use the questions on the children's bookmarks to support their reading comprehension.

PE Days

Wednesdays: PE with Mrs Diggord and the focus will be developing dance skills.

Fridays: PE with Miss Watkins teaching circuits training and fitness.

Please arrive for PE on these days wearing the school PE uniform:

- School PE hoodies only on PE days
- Black jogging bottoms - no leggings please
- Black trainers
- PE t-shirts
- Long hair should be tied back
- Earrings removed or tape to cover

Home learning

It is the expectation at North Road that the children should complete:

- **At least 10 minutes daily** times tables practise using TTRockstars. This must be the **sound check** function. Rapid recall of times table facts is essential for the

children to access the year 3/4 mathematics curriculum. There are also multiple times table games that can be purchased that can assist the children to secure rapid recall. I would highly recommend that children are additionally practising on <https://www.timestables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check/> as this will really support them in the run up to the multiplication check (practising using a keyboard and 2 hands will be useful also).

- Daily reading practise (as mentioned above).

I will monitor individual usage and TTRockstars weekly, the children will be expected to attend a homework meeting on a Wednesday lunchtime if incomplete. Children are also working towards being the next TTRockstars legend (big well done to Louie for term 1).

Children that do complete homework will be rewarded with a raffle ticket. At the end of the term two children will be picked out a random to receive a prize.

KS2 Phonics for Spelling

We are excited to share with you a new approach to the teaching of spelling in Lower Key Stage 2. We are building on from the key reading and spelling phonics skills taught in Reception and KS1 by applying a 'phonics first' approach to the teaching of spellings. This will support your child's acquisition and retention of the words they need to spell accurately in their writing and words identified and set out within the National Curriculum.

Spelling will be taught through the 'phonics first' approach which means your child will identify the sounds they hear within the word and then identify how those sounds are written/represented. Your child will continue to build their knowledge of the phonic code (the list of the different ways a sound can be represented) to support their independent application of spellings within their daily written work.

Please find below, a list of words that, for this term, the children will be celebrating with you at home.

strange
certain
eight
eighteen
weight
straight
reign
separate
answer
heart

You can support your child by reinforcing the 'phonics first' approach at home by breaking down a word into the sounds you can hear before spelling it e.g. and drawing dots / dashes under each sound. The letter 'b', 'r', 'k' have a dot each because it's just one letter making one sound. But 'ea' has a dash because it is a digraph - two letters that make one sound together. The word 'break' has four sound buttons in all - and there are four sounds in the word, b-r-ea-k. In this word, 'ea'

is making the /ai/ sound like in wait. In class, your child will have learnt that /ai/ can be represented in many ways, including 'ea'.

Please practise the spellings in the list above as regularly as you can. You could;

- Read, Sound, Write, Check

Read the word and add the sound buttons/dashes for the sounds that you hear, then replicate the dots and dashes and write the sound out in the correct order on top of them, fold over your piece of paper and have a go at writing the spelling correctly. Finally check how well you did.

- Practice the perfect

Write the correct spelling three times in different colours or write each word across and down e.g. when

- Word Art

What picture could you draw, either around it or within the word, to make it stick in your memory?

- Tracing

Trace over the sounds to practise the perfect spelling.

- Hangman

How fast will you be able to identify the spelling?

We would love you to share your spelling celebrations with us. Please send in a message or a photo of your child's spelling celebrations via Class Dojo for your child to earn a Responsibility Dojo.

If you would like to learn more about how we are teaching spellings at North Road and how to support your child at home, a Spelling Information Session, where you can try out the types of activities above, will be held on **Wednesday 15th November, 3:30 - 4pm**. Children will be able to stay in a classroom where play/creative activities will be available. We hope you can join us.

Thank you for your continued support with your child's home learning.

Yours sincerely,
Miss Watkins