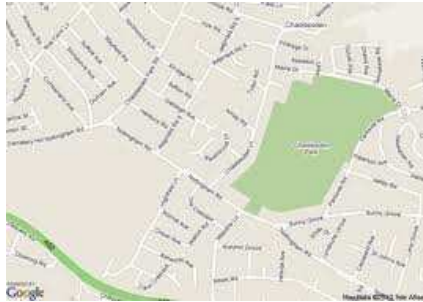


Year 2 Newsletter

10th January 2011

Dear Parents / Guardians,

We hope you have all had a wonderful time over the Christmas Holidays and we wish you a very Happy New Year!



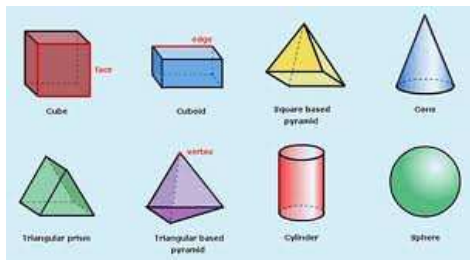
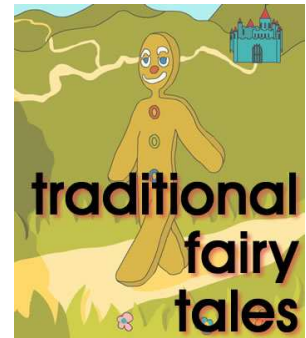
In school this half term our topic is '**Where I Live**'. This encompasses many National Curriculum subjects such as Geography, Science and Art and Design. It is also linked into other curriculum areas such as Maths and ICT, in which a range of digital media will be used and block graphs will be created in order to display results from traffic surveys. A little more detail of what we will be learning in different subject areas can be found below.

Literacy

Throughout this term in Year 1 and 2 we are going to have a big focus on reading. You will receive a separate letter outlining new initiatives we intend to introduce for this term to try and raise the attainment and profile of reading.

There are two main focuses in our Literacy lessons this half term. These are 'Traditional Tales' and 'Non-Chronological Reports'.

We will be reading, enjoying and interacting with a variety of Traditional tales. We will be focussing on story structure and characters. The children will progress onto writing their own version of an alternative traditional tale and also create a multimedia version of it on a computer using digital photos and pictures.



Maths

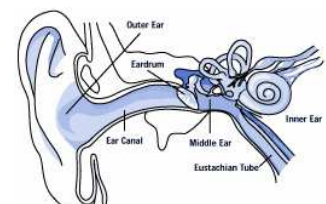
The main focus areas in Maths will be counting, portioning and adding and subtracting numbers. We will also be focusing on multiplication facts and related division facts. The children will explore and create symmetrical patterns and describe the properties of 2-D and 3-D shapes. Towards the end of the half term we will be working on data handling, creating tables and graphs linked to our local area topic.

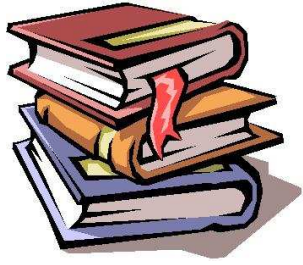
ICT

The children will be learning about how simulations and models can represent the real world. They will use digital cameras to take photographs of the local area and the school and then use a paint program to add their own objects and details to improve the image. They will create their own fantasy town or landscape and relate it to their own environment.

Science

Our Science topic for this half term is 'Sound and Hearing'. During this topic the children will learn about the senses that enable humans and other animals to be aware of the world around them. The children will explore that there are many kinds of sounds and sources of sounds. We will also discuss some basic biology of the ear and how our ears help us identify where sounds are coming from.





RE

Our current RE topic is 'Books'. We will be reflecting on the variety of books used at home, in school and in the neighbourhood and the importance of books. The children will learn about the Book of Gospels used in church on Sundays. Towards the end of the half term, our learning will move onto 'Memories' with a focus on how the Eucharist is a way of remembering Jesus in the way he asked us to.

Geography

We will be investigating our local area and how we can make it safer. We will begin with observing the physical and human features of the area whilst on local walks. We will be using a range of technology such as recordable microphones, flip video cameras and digital cameras to collect evidence. We will then move on to focussing on the different types of roads, carrying out traffic and parking surveys. We will be inviting visitors into school such as the community support officer and local residents to interview them regarding making our local area safer.



A Few Reminders

- Book bags should be brought to school **every day** and taken home **every night**.
- Learning logs need to be handed in every Monday. If they are late they may not be marked until the following week.
- Items of school uniform, PE kits and coats should be clearly labelled with your child's name. We seem to have a few cardigans, jumpers and ties with no names in them.
- Full PE kits should be kept in school. We often have children without their PE pumps or pumps that are too small for them. Our PE days are Wednesday and Friday. Please ensure that children do not wear earrings to school on those days.
- A letter was given out explaining about us going out on a few walks around Chaddesden over the next few weeks. If any parents (who have a current CRB check) are free within the school day and would like to accompany us, please let one of us know. Our first walk will take place on Thursday 13th January in the afternoon. Please ensure that your child has sensible shoes and a warm coat. Please send the permission slip into school if you have not already done so. We will not be able to take a child if we have not received their permission slip.

Finally, we would like to say *Thank you* for your continued support with the children's work in the learning logs and with their reading. The standard of homework produced in some children's learning logs is fantastic and it is clear that a lot of time and effort is put into the work.

If there is anything at all that you have concerns or queries about, please do not hesitate to approach either one of us. We have a parent's evening coming up later in the term, but would rather discuss any immediate concerns you may have before then.

Many Thanks,

Mrs Johnson and Mrs McNamara

Please Note

- ✿ If you have changed your mobile phone or do not receive texts from the school please let Mrs Cartlidge have your mobile telephone number.
- ✿ We have a recycling bin for batteries in the school front entrance. If you wish to recycle your batteries please use the bin provided.
- ✿ School meals are now being cooked on the premises.