



Italy Class

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Italy Class Newsletter

Welcome back! I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for my lovely Christmas presents. I hope that you have all had a relaxing Christmas holiday and the children are ready to come back to school. These are some of the themes and units of work that we are tackling this coming term.

Overall Themes

This half-term our Topic is 'Memory Box' and we will be linking our English and History learning to that theme alongside other curriculum areas. Our '**Memory Box Morning**' will be on **Tuesday 11th January 2022**. On this day, we would love for the children to bring in a named envelope or shoebox of memories to share with the class. This may include photographs, gifts, tickets, medals, toys, etc. It would be lovely to see any parent/grandparent memories also! If you can, please include a picture of your child when they were a baby - we will start by trying to guess who is who from the baby photos. We would also love a grandparent to speak to us about their childhood on Zoom on this day. Please do get in contact with us if you know of a willing volunteer!

English

In English, we will be using a range of texts to delve further into our theme. We will start by writing diary entries from the perspective of characters from classic stories, such as Jack and the Beanstalk. We will then write recounts of memories and descriptions of artefacts from the past. In each unit, we will develop our reading, writing and speaking and listening skills. In Guided Reading sessions, children will continue to read texts that teach them inference, deduction, reading strategies, vocabulary and the content of fiction and non-fiction books. It will be based at their level and will encourage progress within their reading.

*** Please write in your child's reading log three times a week and we will write in it once a week. Remember! Extra dojos are awarded for frequent home reading!**

Maths

All children will learn new mathematical concepts using physical equipment (manipulatives) and pictorial representations in order to embed and apply new mathematical language and abstract constructs to solve mathematical challenges. Year 1 pupils will learn the key principles of number (to 50), including the place value and the four operations as well as comparing numbers and they will also learn to identify the characteristics of 2D and 3D shapes. Year 2 children will do the same, but with numbers to 100, and they will also be exposed to mathematical learning around statistics and fractions. We will encourage all pupils to apply their Maths skills through problems to solve. Please do continue to use My Maths, Numbots and TT Rockstars at home for number and mental calculating fluency.

Science

This term, children will explore plants and trees! They will be learning some common names for plants, flowers and trees. They will learn about evergreen and deciduous trees and the children will also learn what plants need in order to grow well, taking part in some planting of bulbs and seeds.

PE

There are two PE sessions each week, generally scheduled for Monday and Friday, and this term we will be focusing on gymnastics and games from the past. Your child will need a drawstring bag with a named PE kit for indoor and outdoor sessions. As the weather is now colder, please can I ask that children have appropriate outdoor clothing - shorts and t-shirts are only to be worn with a long sleeved top or if leggings are worn underneath. The PE kit should be in school every day then taken home on Fridays to be washed and ready for the following Monday. Please also ensure that your child's footwear fit and each item of clothing is named - we currently have a box of unnamed/unclaimed clothing in our classroom. There will also be another opportunity for parents to look in the box before items move to lost property.

Class Worship & Religious Education

Our days begin either with an interactive Class Worship, a prayer or elements of learning taken from the new statutory curriculum subject: Relationships & Health Education curriculum (previously named PSCH). Our Christian Values for this term are humility, service and forgiveness. Occasionally, class worship is led by Father Paul or by Mr. Holloway and, as you know, we are due to visit Church for one of these events. In RE this half term, Italy pupils will be comparing the two religions: Christianity and Judaism.

Art & Design

The children will complete a topic called, 'Fabulous Faces' during which they will analyse some famous self-portraits and complete their own self-portraits using basic proportions. They will also have a go at doing portraits of others, applying their learning about the dimensions of a face.

Computing

We will continue to use Purple Mash as a comprehensive educational learning tool where your child will use it to group and sort a variety of items, generating pictograms as well as following and generating a set of instructions. The principles of online safety will be integral throughout.

RHE

This year, Year 2 pupils (only) will begin their learning around sex and relationship education. The unit is entitled "Boys, Girls and Families" so they will consider the physical differences between male and female children and how the body changes as it grows from young to old. They will also explore different types of families and how their home-life is special. Year 1 pupils will study "Me and Others" by considering what makes them and others special.

Humanities

We shall focus on History this spring by studying changes within living memory by taking a close-up look at family and local life as well as changes nationally.

Homework

A homework list is already available via Google Classroom. We ask that your child completes one activity or a piece of work each week. Depending on the task, we ask that you upload completed work onto Google Classroom, email italy@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk or bring it into class.

Important dates for Italy class:

- World of Work Day - Wednesday 16th February

- Half Term - Monday 21st - Friday 25th February
 - Fair Trade Fortnight - Monday 21st February
 - INSET DAY - Monday 28th February
 - World Book Day - Thursday 3rd March
 - Red Nose Day - Friday 18th March
 - School Reports - Friday 25th March
 - Parents Evenings - Tuesday 29th March (3.30-6pm) and Thursday 31st March (3.30 - 6pm)
 - **online via the school cloud system*
 - Easter Eucharist - Thursday 7th April
 - Last day of term and Easter Eggstravaganza - Friday 8th April
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- **Reading logs** - please continue to ensure you listen to, or monitor, your child reading three times per week and that this is signed and dated in their reading log. This will form an important part of my assessment for reading, and is a key dialogue between home and school. Children are requested NOT to bring books to school from the home during the pandemic. Please note, you can also access books remotely via the online website MyOn.
 - **Homework** - a new homework grid will be placed onto the class pages of Google Classrooms. It is school policy that EVERY pupil should be attempting to submit homework. We believe any form of homework to be beneficial in cementing your child's learning and is great at building the relationship between parent and child. Thirty minutes is more than enough for a KS1 child and you may wish to split this in to two 15 minute blocks. The homework grid is designed to give your child the choice as to what they would prefer to tackle. Please do NOT bring homework into school, but submit it via Google Classrooms. If there is something special you would like to share with the class, please email the school office or the class email address so we may share it electronically.
 - **Weekly spellings** - Please ensure your children are practising their spellings at home each week. There are lots of fantastic apps which can help with this - Spelling Shed and Spelling Bee are recommended.
 - **Times tables** - Please ensure your child is practising their times tables at home each week. It is important that the children build on the EYFS experience of counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. The school has signed up to a website called **Times Tables Rockstars** for which you should all have your individual login IDs and Passwords. Please note that this website is designed to **automatically** move your child on once they have shown their recall time and accuracy are in line with recommendation. Any games for times table would be beneficial so please make sure you are practising. There are YouTube songs to help that you could have playing as well.
 - **Google Classrooms, My Maths, Accelerated Reader, MyOn and Purple Mash are also other websites the children can access to help with their learning.**

NOTICES -

NUT-FREE SCHOOL - Just a reminder: Please remember we are a nut-free school, so please do not pack anything that is a nut or contains nuts please.

We look forward to working with you on the next step in your child's education We urge you to get in touch if you have any problems or concerns, no matter how small and insignificant you think they are, via phone or on italy@stmarysprimarypulborough.co.uk

Kind Regards,

Mrs Hubble