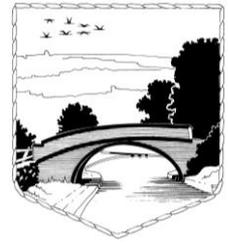




**St Lawrence Church of England
(Voluntary Aided) Primary School**
Dog Lane, Napton, Southam, Warwickshire CV47 8LU
01926 812447
office@stlawrenceprimaryschool.co.uk
www.stlawrenceprimaryschool.co.uk
Head teacher: Mrs Bethan Hanna



Curriculum Overview for Spring Term 2023/2024

Little Lawrences:

Our learning theme in Little Lawrences this term is centred around 'Amazing animals', before moving onto our 'Come Outside' topic later in the term. Our children have expressed an interest in farm animals, we will continue to share children's literature based on this theme, and we hope to welcome some farm animals to our setting as a great way of applying our knowledge and learning even more! We will continue working on our fine motor skills, through dough disco and squiggle whilst you wiggle and we will be introducing Sensory stories, a fantastic way of developing recall and comprehension skills whilst getting messy! This term we will also be inviting family members to come into preschool and share their special skills with the children through specialist sessions; working on building relationships with the community and giving the children a sense of belonging - please keep a look for further details soon.

Reception:

This term in Reception, we are learning about 'Amazing animals'. We will be starting with woodland animals and moving on to learn about animals that live in different habitats, the jungle, desert, seas. We have a wonderful jungle area set up in the unit for the children to explore – helping them to apply their knowledge, extend their vocabulary and let their imaginations run wild! In maths, we will be exploring the relationships between numbers to 10, using lots of practical resource to help develop our number sense and in phonics consolidating the sounds we have learnt and reading and writing sentences.

Year 1:

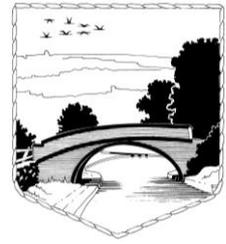
This term in Year 1, our topic is Toys and Transport. We will therefore be finding out a little of the history of these things and how they have changed over time. Included in this topic will be a short study of the Lego creator and other giants of the toys and transport history. We will be linking this to prior knowledge of materials learnt in science last term. In science this term, we are looking at seasonal changes between winter and spring and 'Animals Including Humans'. The children will have the opportunity to explore and learn about the five senses and the human body. We will use Forest School to cover some of this science learning. In English, the children continue to focus daily on phonics and reading, learning the alternative spellings and pronunciations of sounds. We will also be linking our key texts to our topic by focussing on beautiful stories such as 'Lost in the Toy Museum' and 'Traction Man'. Through these texts, we will explore grammar, writing and link non-fiction texts where we can. What a busy term it is set to be!

Year 2:

In Year 2 this term, we are discovering the everyday life of the 'Industrious Victorians' in Topic, which links, to our English. We will be looking at significant people during the Victorian era, timelines, discovering what homes, schools, hospitals and medicines were like and investigating the major inventions that improved life for ordinary people. We will also focus on art by William Morris – patterns, flowers and colours. In Science, we are looking at 'Living things and their habitats' comparing the difference between living, never been alive and dead things, and the habitats they live in. We will also be considering food choices. In maths, we will be moving onto multiplication, division, and measures once we have completed our work on money.



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Year 3:

Our theme for the spring term is Active Earth. We will be looking at the structure of the Earth and learning about how volcanoes, earthquakes and tsunamis are formed as well as wild weather events. We will consider how the activity of the Earth impacts upon people in different parts of the world. Our science too ties in with this theme: we are learning about rocks and soils and exploring different types of rock and their properties. We will learn about how rocks are formed and the creation of fossils. Our English work starts with a unit using the book 'The Street Beneath our Feet' which has already ignited the children's curiosity. We will use this for reading activities and to develop our writing skills by writing our own texts about what is going on under the ground. Art projects will include weaving tapestries to show the layers of the Earth and, in Spring 2, looking at Pop Art. In music, we have begun the term by singing (and dancing) some salsa! We will compose rhythmic patterns and learn how chords are formed. In Maths, we are continuing to learn about multiplication and division. We will also keep practising our times tables. Now that we have really mastered our 2, 5 and 10 times tables, we are focusing on the 3, 4 and 8 times tables. All this knowledge will really help us as we move onto learning about fractions later in the term. We hope children will keep practising at home too. In Computing, we are practising our coding skills using the Scratch program. Later in the term we will be looking at simple databases. A reminder that our usual PE session remains on Wednesday and Friday. Wednesdays will include dance and on Fridays, we enjoy the expertise of our coaches from Coventry Rugby Club.

Year 4:

Year 4 is excited to be using a wide variety of primary and secondary sources when studying the geographical, historical, religious, political and social aspects of ancient Greece this term. In particular, we are looking forward to: identifying and ordering significant events on timelines and comparing them with those of other civilisations around the world; exploring some of the impacts of Alexander the Great's Empire; comparing powers and influences of Greek gods and goddesses; analysing features of daily life for different sectors of society (rich, poor, enslaved, military ...); and looking at trade, battles, transport, diet, money and the emergence of democracy. We are also keen to find out about prominent, famous people, their designs and inventions: Pythagoras, Hydna of Scione, Archimedes, Aristotle, Sappho, Hippocrates, Plato, Homer, Socrates ... In addition, enthusiasm is brewing with the anticipation of delving into the mysterious world of myths and legends, as well as devising their own challenges based on both the ancient and modern Olympic Games.

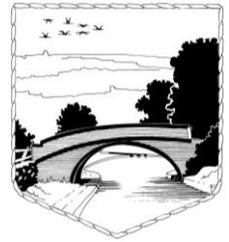
Year 5:

It has been lovely to welcome Year 5 back to St. Lawrence's for this Spring term. Although it's a shorter one, we have plenty to pack in! To start with, we have as our English text 'The Sleeper and the Spindle' by Neil Gaiman and Chris Riddell - a dark and exciting retelling of some classic fairy tales - through the lens of which we will dive into vocabulary, grammar, spelling, and a variety of techniques! In topic, we are learning all about the ancient Romans, beginning with their geographical and historical origins politics, invasions, and movements, before focusing in on their impacts on the modern world, including technologies, inventions and ideas (hopefully including a trip). In R.E., the children are investigating the reasons for religious/spiritual beliefs or the lack of these. We hope to visit a Mosque or Islamic centre at some point, and plans for this are currently being organised. In Maths, we will have units on fractions, multiplication and division methods, decimals and percentages. In P.E. the children are doing football with me on Wednesday afternoons, and have a session with the sports coach on Thursday afternoons. On that note, please can the children bring a plastic bag to keep their inevitably muddy shoes in? We are looking forward to an action-filled term with plenty of fun and learning to be done - more than I can fit in here!

*A happy church school that nurtures the unique talents of individuals and brings them together so that
- 'they will soar on wings like eagles' (Isaiah 40:31)*



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Year 6:

Year 6's journey takes us to the Yucatan Peninsula as we explore the fascinating world of the Ancient Maya. In English, we will delve into the captivating pages of 'Rain Player' by D. Wisniewski, enhancing our reading skills and exploring vocabulary, retrieval, and inference. Spelling is a key focus, emphasising application in written work and self-editing. Emphasis on handwriting, presentation, and grammar includes understanding passive/active sentences and advanced punctuation like semicolons. In Mathematics, we are gearing up for SATs with a comprehensive review of fractions, followed by decimals, percentages, algebra, and ratio. Maths World Cup facts, especially times tables and number bonds, will be crucial for our continued mathematical fluency. Geography will highlight the Maya civilization and Mexico. In History, we study the Ancient Maya civilization, covering gods, number systems, writing, exploration, and food. In Computing sessions with Mr. Delaney, besides making websites, we feature game programming using Microsoft Kodu. In Science, 'evolution and inheritance' explores changes in living things over time and adaptations. PE focuses on indoor sports, alternating between gymnastics and invasion games. We have begun to learn a Welsh song for St. David's Day and aim to continue using French phrases at every opportunity. Music continues with the amazing 'Warwickshire Sings' as we learn about pitch notation in various songs, while RE examines creation stories across religions. Art has already featured watercolour skills via a VERY large Jonah and the Whale piece that we hope to display in the hall!