



AUTUMN

Autumn Term

What will we be learning?

This year we are following Cycle A. This means that we have an embedded theme of Once Upon a Time throughout the year and we will be starting with our topic titled '**Castles and Dragons**'.

Here is an overview of all of the exciting things we will be learning this term –

English in the Autumn Term

I have chosen lots of exciting texts to share that link to our theme that will provide inspiration for spoken language and writing opportunities. Our first text is going to be Jack and the Beanstalk. This is a classic fairy tale about a poor boy who trades his family cow for magic beans that grow into a giant beanstalk and when Jack climbs the beanstalk he finds himself in the castle of an unfriendly giant. This term we will have lots of opportunities to develop our spoken English. We will have lots of fun retelling the story using puppets whilst using lots of expression! We will think about how the different characters are feeling at different parts of the story and discuss the key features of a fairy tale.

Our next story will be Zog! I cannot wait to share a more modern take on a fairy tale and look at how Julia Donaldson uses rhyming text to tell a story. Again, we will develop our use of spoken language and prosody as we share opportunities to read aloud and create our own puppets.

We will also have the opportunity to write a wanted poster, a setting description and retell a fairy tale.

I can't wait to see what you produce!

After half term, we are going to focus on non-fiction and use Dare to Care for a Pet Dragon to inspire us to write our own non-chronological reports about caring for a dragon!

We will also document our trip to Auckland Castle by writing a recount of our exciting adventure!

On 3rd October it is National Poetry Day, we will use the poem Sniff, Sniff, Sniff by Julia Donaldson to create our own poems linked to our sense of smell. This will hopefully inspire us when we write our own poems about dragons later in the term using Tell Me a Dragon by Jackie Morris.

Maths in the Autumn Term

Our focus for this term is going to be all about number and place value. We will explore number and develop your recognition of patterns within the number system and learn to represent them in

different ways. All of the activities will be practical and engaging whilst challenging! Maths will often take place outdoors as a way of experiencing the world beyond the classroom and providing practical opportunities for the application of problem-solving strategies as well as developing a greater curiosity and exploration of number.

We will also be working on addition and subtraction. We will develop our number bonds using tens frames and the part whole model to support understanding of calculations. Every child has a login for Numbots which is an online tool that supports mathematics in Key Stage One, I have found that is an enjoyable game that improves quick recall of number bonds. Please use number bonds at home as knowing number bonds fluently up to ten is one of the foundations to more complex arithmetic.

Towards the end of term, we will then apply our knowledge when investigating measures.

Science in the Autumn Term

Our science topic, for the first half term, will be about the human body. We will think about different parts of the body and the jobs they do as well as thinking about what you think the most important body part is and why. We will explore our different senses and investigate what we can hear in the playground as well as taste different food. We have the opportunity to explore some resources sent to school from our local Oral Health Advisor and will think about dental care and how we can look after our body. We will also have a visit from one of our parents who is a dental nurse to discuss the importance of looking after our teeth!

Our next topic later in the term focuses on materials and we will explore what materials we can find in our local area and their uses.

As part of an ongoing science observation, we will record the daily weather and then use this data to compare different months and seasons through the year.

PE in the Autumn Term

Our PE days are a Wednesday and Friday and we will be focusing on Fundamental Movement Skills and developing skills in ball games. On a Wednesday we will be supported by a skilled coach during Fundamental Movement Skills lessons. Please make sure you come to school wearing the correct PE kit and sensible footwear. We ask for long hair to be tied back and all jewellery to be removed. Having items of school clothing named will be beneficial to all, as important learning time can sometimes be wasted finding out which jumper/ cardigan belongs to which child! This will hopefully avoid you coming home without the correct clothing. I will keep a box for any lost property found in Class 2 so please ask if you are missing anything.

History in the Autumn Term

In history we will discover who lived in castles and why they were built. We will locate castles on a map of the North East and visit Auckland Castle. Whilst we are there we will hear the story of how the Prince Bishops came to be, handle real and replica artefacts, attend Bishop Barrington's Ball and take part in real knight's training. We will also learn about the local myth of Pollard and the Boar and retell the story.

Geography in Autumn Term

In geography we will look at aerial photographs and make sense of what we can see from the air. We will then use this information to investigate what Spennymoor has that Byers Green does not. We will visit Spennymoor and carry out a fieldwork enquiry.

Art in Autumn Term

We will be using clay to sculpt mythical dragon eyes. I cannot wait to see your finished pieces! Later in the term we will be exploring the painting 'Castle and the Sun' by Paul Klee and comparing the image to real castles in the UK and then recreating the image using crayons and watercolours.

DT in Autumn Term

In DT we will be focusing on food technology and we will have the opportunity to design and make a pizza. We will explore and taste a variety of bread from around the world and discover where our food comes from and what makes a healthy diet.

Computing in Autumn Term

Every half term we will start computing lessons with online safety. Your first topic is 'Self Image and Identity'. You will focus on how to keep yourself and others safe online by thinking about what information needs to be kept private. Following this, your Purple Mash unit will be learning how to navigate around Purple Mash and how to save your work.

On a Wednesday Miss Forth will teach RE, Spanish and Music.

RE in Autumn Term

In RE we will be thinking about what is important to Christians. We will visit St Peter's Church in our village and work with Reverend Barbara.

Spanish in Autumn Term

In Spanish we will learn basic greetings and think about different types of transport. We will celebrate the National Day of Spain by exploring the culture.

Music in Autumn Term

In music we will introduce beat and explore how we can make friends when we sing together. Later in the term we will add rhythm and pitch and explore how music tell stories about the past.

I am really looking forward to this term and all of the exciting opportunities we have to look forward to! Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or concerns.

Mrs Bradwell 😊

