



# Curriculum Newsletter

October  
2023

Welcome to our new half termly Curriculum Newsletter. Each half term we will share with you some of the curriculum journeys your child has been on with us. We hope that you find this enjoyable and informative and welcome your feedback.

## Whole school

What a fantastic half term it has been for learning. There have been many trips and visits already and we are proud that each time we receive positive feedback about our pupil's learning attitudes and enthusiasm.

This week we had the Local Authority in talking to pupils about their writing and they commented on how engaged and excited the children are to write. They can talk about what they have been learning and the types of features they must include in their writing styles. We would urge you to have those conversations with your children as I am sure you will be impressed. Instead of asking them 'What have you done today?' try instead asking 'What have you learned today?' and I am sure that they will be able to share some impressive facts and features.

Next half term we will be looking closely at reading and talking to the children about how often they read at home and what strategies they use to read and understand their texts. I hope that you spend the half term having some well earned family time, but remember to find some time each day to read and record in your child's reading diary so that they can continue to get stickers on their book mark. Thank you as always for your support.

## Sports news

Wow, what a busy start to the year for sport! We have been on many sports fixtures and students have took part in a handful of extra curricular clubs, displaying teamwork and sportsmanship throughout.

We started the year with a year 5/6 football tournament, where the boys played magnificently and were undefeated, not only this, they didn't even concede a goal! This took them into the next round where unfortunately they were defeated by Randlay Primary.

The football was quickly followed by our tag rugby team going to a development session and showing some key rugby values as well as playing some brilliant rugby!

We finished our half term with a key stage 1 and year 5/6 sports hall athletics competition, key stage one worked hard throughout and took 6th place out of 11 school's which was fantastic, we had plenty of smiles by the end of the day! Our amazing year 5/6 team came 4th out of 19 teams overall which is a very impressive outcome. Furthermore, we would like to wish our year 5/6 girls team a huge congratulations as they placed 2nd out of 19 which means they will be representing Telford next May at the county competition.

Well done everyone!

## EYFS

The first half term is always a busy one for Reception. We have settled in and established rules and routines and are now showing we are ready to learn. This half term we have focused on the question, "Why are we special?"

We have talked about how special our families are and how they are not always the same as our friends... we have celebrated differences.

Within finding out why we are special, we have focused on 'People who help us' so we have looked at our community around us. We have had visits from the dentist and the local police officers. We have also started our Brilliant Brushers teeth brushing scheme.

We have finished this half term with a harvest performance of 'The Enormous Turnip'.



## KS1

It has been a busy start to the new school year.

In history we have been learning about homes throughout history and enjoyed our visit to the Black Country Living Museum where we go to see examples of how people lived in the past.

In science, year 1 have been learning about seasonal changes. They have looked at the four seasons and the different weather that each season has. They have also planted some seeds which they will watch grow over the year. Year 2 have been learning about Living Things and their Habitats. We went for an explore in the school grounds to find micro-habitats.

In art we have been exploring colour. We created a mosaic piece of artwork inspired by the artist Alma Thomas.



## Year 3/4

This half term we have completed a range of activities in all areas of the curriculum.

In Music, we have been learning the recorder. Year 4 learnt it last year but it is new to the Year 3's. It is fair to say we were very excited for our first lesson learning the note B. Although we initially found it hard, we are getting much better. The children have also started to experiment with percussion instruments, they are playing them alongside a picture, changing tempo, beat and pitch accordingly.



In History, we have begun looking at our new topic—Anglo-Saxons. Within this unit, we have looked at who the Anglo Saxons were, where they sit on a timeline, their invasion, what made them successful and the impact they had on Britain. The children were lucky enough to have a visitor in to share their knowledge about the Anglo Saxons. They took part in many activities including using clay, organising a map of areas in Shropshire and drawing Anglo Saxon artefacts. The children were beautifully behaved and asked so many fantastic questions.

In Science, the children have looked at animals including humans focusing on nutrition and a healthy balanced food. The children have enjoyed the discussions and are excited to start experimenting.

## Year 5/6

This half term we have completed a range of activities in all areas of the curriculum and our learning hasn't stopped since day 1!

We kickstarted the year with a visit to Blists Hill where we looked at the life of a Victorian, evidence of the industrial revolution and what school was like for a child!



In reading, writing and history our focus has been on The Victorians. In writing, we have written our own persuasive leaflets for Blists Hill, non-chronological reports on Victorian inventions and a biography on Queen Victoria. In reading, our focus text has been *Street Child*. We have used a VIPERS to explore the text. In history, we focused more on The Industrial Revolution and its impact on the world and our local area.



In science, we began our topic of living things and their habitats with a focus this half term on what makes something living and life cycles of the main living thing groups—mammals, amphibians, insects, reptiles and birds. We identified the features of each as well as the living things that come under them.

