



Kestrels Curriculum Newsletter

Unit 2 – Castles

Autumn 2024

Mathematics

The children will be focusing on the skills of addition and subtraction. They will look at number bonds to 10 and 100 thinking about related facts and fact families. The children will practise adding three 1-digit numbers. They will compare number sentences and solve missing number problems. We will learn to recognise, sort and draw 2D shapes and recognise the properties of 3D shapes using mathematical vocabulary. The children will also look at symmetry and identify lines of symmetry to complete shapes. The children will also be learning their times table facts using the TTRockstars app as a resource to support this.



English

Writing- Using the text 'Rapunzel' the children will write a description, a letter and re-tell the story using appropriate language for a traditional tale such as 'Once upon a time...' We will focus on developing writing stamina and accurate punctuation.

Spelling—will be taught daily using the Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Spelling programme which will begin with a review of the Phase 5 phonic sounds.

Reading— will be taught three times a week as a whole class. In addition to this children will have the opportunity to read 1:1 with an adult in school too. We will be working hard to develop fluency and accuracy when reading.

Home reading books – Changed every **Thursday**

Library books – Changed every **Friday**



Computing

The computing unit focuses on digital photography. They will talk about old and new devices which can take photos. When taking photos they will decide whether a photograph needs to be landscape or portrait and start to suggest improvements to a photograph. They will recognise images can be changed.

PSHE

The children will focus on friendship. They will learn about the importance of the special people in their lives. We will discuss making friends and who can help with friendships. They will also have the opportunity to discuss and develop strategies for solving problems that might arise within friendships too.



RE

The children will talk about babies and how special they are to their parents/carers. We will read the story of the birth of Jesus and think about why this story is important to Christians. We will look at the story of the Shepherds and the Wise Men in more detail. The children will discuss how Jesus is represented as a special baby on Christmas cards and think about how they can show people that we care about them and that they are special.

Art

The children will explore the world through monprint. They will explore monprint and understand that using a range of marks will generate different effects. They will use a range of media including oil pastels.



History

The children will order dates on a simple timeline. Looking at artefacts and different pieces of historical evidence they will find out about what daily life might have been like in Tamworth Castle during different periods in time. This will be supported by our visit to Tamworth Castle on **Tuesday 12th November**. The children will also further develop their vocabulary to talk about the past.

Science

The children will compare the differences between things that are living, dead, and things that have never been alive. They will describe how different habitats provide for the basic needs of different kinds of animals and plants. They will identify and name plants and animals in their habitats, including micro habitats and describe how animals obtain their food from plants and other animals with an introduction to food chains.

Key Dates for Kestrels

Thursday 24th October— Non uniform Day and Pumpkin Festival (4.00-5.30pm)

Friday 25th October— **INSET DAY**— School closed to pupils

Monday 25th October—Friday 1st November—Half Term

Monday 11th November— Remembrance Assembly (10.45am) Parents Welcome to attend

Tuesday 12th November— Odd Socks Day for Anti-Bullying

Tuesday 12th November— Trip to Tamworth Castle

Friday 29th November— Christingle Assembly (2.45pm) led by Kestrels (Parents welcome to attend)

Monday 16th December— Christmas Pantomime 4.00-5.15pm (Reception –Year 3)

Tuesday 17th December— Year 2 and Year 3 Carol Concert (9.00am and 6.00pm)

Wednesday 18th December— Christmas Dinner Day

Monday 23rd December—Friday 3rd January—Christmas Holiday



Physical Education (PE)

P.E lessons will be on a **Tuesday** and a **Friday**. Please make sure your child has their PE kit in school; labelled with their name to help when changing. Earrings should be removed and hair tied back. PE kits will be sent home at the end of each half term for washing. We will be further developing skills in gymnastics and orienteering.

Design Technology

The children will look at different mechanisms, to create a draw bridge. They will select from and use a range of tools and equipment to make a finished product before evaluating their ideas and products against design criteria.

Staffing in Kestrels

Mrs A Free —Monday—Friday

Mrs S Garrett—Monday - Friday

Miss Brayer—John Taylor SCITT Trainee



Forest School Sessions are a **Thursday** with Miss Garrett. Your child will need to bring a named pair of wellies and puddle suit/ waterproof trousers/coat **every Thursday- These will not stay in school.**

