

Year 3/4 Term 2 Newsletter

Dear Parents,

Welcome back - I hope you had a lovely half term break! The children had a fantastic start to their term learning all about African art, Anansi traditional tales and taking part in the Arts day at Chiddingly.

Our topic this term is called Communicate and Electrify! In this topic we will be exploring how electricity has developed over time and how to make electrical circuits. Our focus book is 'The Indian in the Cupboard' by Lynne Reid Banks and we will be using this to enhance our Literacy sessions.



Reading	Please read with your child regularly, even if it is just one page. Their books and book bags will need to be in everyday for 1:1 reading. You may like to add a positive or helpful comment in the reading diary but please acknowledge the fact that the book has been read by signing and dating in the comments book. It has been great to see how excited the children have become with our reading challenge and they will be rewarded at the end of term for their efforts!
Spellings	We will be sending home weekly spellings as part of our spelling focus lessons. These will be linked to a rule and the children will be guided in the choice of spellings they choose. This term they will need to show they are practising their spellings using the guided sheet. The children will get new spellings on Wednesday and tested on a Tuesday every week. Please make sure they bring their book in every Tuesday for the test. They will have a week to practise the spellings.
Maths	Our focus this term is mental maths and applying it in different questions. The children will have a set of questions which will test their knowledge of calculations and mathematical vocabulary. The children have been fantastic at remembering their homework and working hard to complete the tasks. The classroom will always be open on a Wednesday lunchtime for those children who might need extra help with homework before the Friday it is due in.

Helping to enrich our topics:

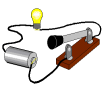
If anyone has any experience or items that may help us with any of the work above that we could hear about or borrow, they would be gratefully received. We are also looking for any spare empty jars which could be donated for our Christmas DT/Forest School projects this term.

Reminders - Please can you make sure your child brings in a water bottle each day with fresh water; ensure all jumpers are labelled and bring a coat for the wet weather.

Challenge - Can you spot how many pictures of circuits are hidden in this newsletter?

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Mackarness



Reading at school and at home

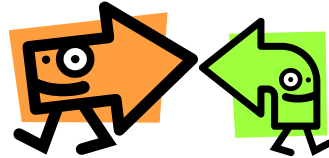
Reading strategies the children use in school and can be referred to at home.

I could sound out the word.

dog

sweet

I can miss out the word. Then I could read on to the end of a sentence and then go back and check what would make sense.



I look for smaller words in words.

butterfly

cat

handwriting

I talk through my ideas, thoughts and feelings about what I am reading so I understand it.



When I read I imagine what is happening and create a picture in my mind.



I use the pictures to help me.

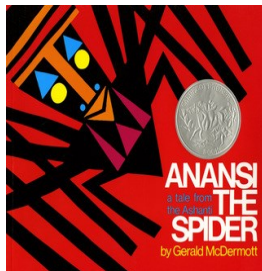


Communicate and Electrify! Learning Map

Literacy



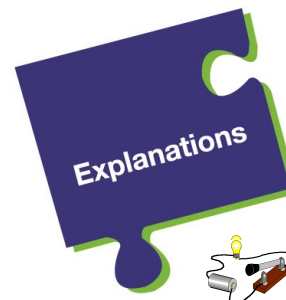
Anansi folktales



The Indian in the Cupboard



Explanations



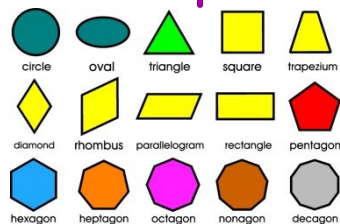
Christmas stories from other perspectives



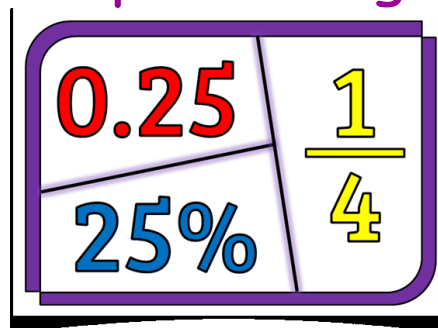
Numeracy



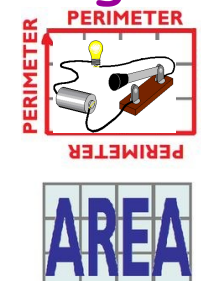
Shapes



Fractions, decimals and percentages



Perimeter, area and angles



We will also be learning more about place value and mental and written methods

ICT



E-Safety



ZIP IT

Keep your personal stuff private and think about what you say and do online.



BLOCK IT

Block people who send nasty messages and don't open unknown links and attachments.

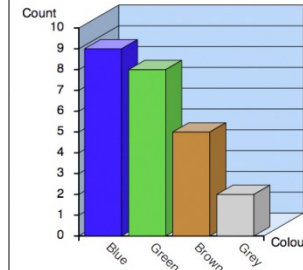


FLAG IT

Flag up with someone you trust if anything upsets you or if someone asks to meet you offline.

Graphs and data handling

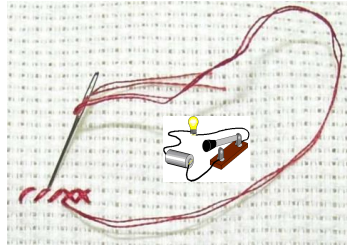
Eye Colours in our Class



DT



Sewing



Christmas cooking



Christmas packaging/measuring



PSHE



Healthy lifestyle and diet



Risks and keeping safe

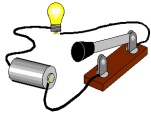


Who keeps us safe?

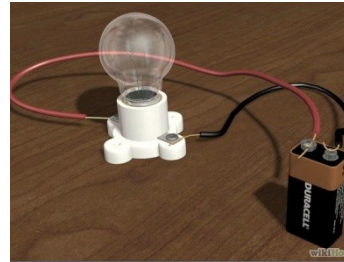


Science

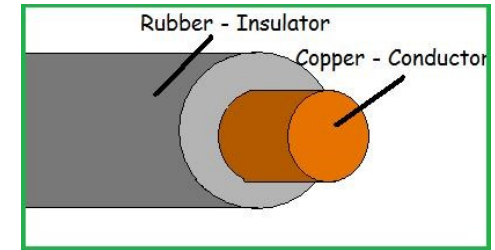
Design a Torch for an explorer with series circuits.



Creating own circuits and problem solving with circuits.



Conductors and insulators.



RE

Judaism



Significance of light and candles at Christmas



PE



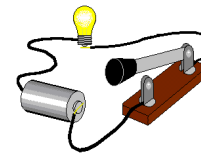
Hockey



Dance



Websites to help your topic learning:



<http://www.learningcircuits.co.uk/flashmain.htm>

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/scienceclips/ages/8_9/circuits_conductors_fs.shtml

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/scienceclips/ages/6_7/electricity_fs.shtml

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/scienceclips/ages/10_11/changing_circuits_fs.shtml