

Autumn Term 2023 – Curriculum News



September 2023

We hope you have had a lovely summer and are looking forward to all the exciting things we have planned as your child begins their final year at Abbots Green.

We kick-start our term with a fantastic History focus on World War 2 and The Battle of Britain. We will be studying the important timeline of events during World War 2, learning about rationing, why so many people were evacuated, what happened during the Blitz and how society changed as a result of conflict. In Geography this term, we will first of all focus on settlements, land use and economic relationships before moving on to developing map skills and orienteering/fieldwork.

This half term, our Science topic will be Electricity and we will be learning about the components of a circuit and how to construct one which will then help us to create our very own electronic board game in Design Technology! After half term, we move onto the topic of Light. The children will be learning about how light travels, what colours make up the light we see and learning more about reflection and refraction.

PSHE will focus heavily on the world in which we live in and having a sense of belonging. Speaking and listening will be a central aspect of this subject. Art modules this term will focus on drawing and painting skills. In RE, we will explore the Islamic religion before Christianity after half-term.

English

Our writing this term will be linked to our World War 2 topic which will start with a historical narrative inspired by the brilliant book 'Letters from the Lighthouse' which we will be reading in class. We will also be writing autobiographies as well as studying some WW2 poetry. After half term, we will be dabbling in a bit of Shakespeare and honing our explanatory text writing skills. A new spelling concept will be taught each week and spellings related to each concept will be on Spelling Shed for the children to use both in school and at home. Please encourage them to practise these throughout the week as the children will have a combination of spelling tests and dictation to check that they are applying these concepts.

Maths

This term, children will consolidate their understanding of number (place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division). We will be learning about the order of operations and long division through a range of theory, problem solving and practical exercises. Also, this term, children will be revising their fraction knowledge as well as learning about converting units of measure. The aim is for children to be able to apply maths in a range of contexts. Children's knowledge and practising of times tables will be significant again this year as will their mental maths skills. Using mental maths strategies in real life situations at home would be hugely beneficial. Every week, the children will complete an arithmetic test and will bring this home to share their successes. This is to ensure the fundamentals of number are embedded.

Home learning

From **Friday 15th September**, your child will be set a maths and English tasks to complete at home. These tasks will relate to learning in the classroom. Both pieces will be set on a Friday and due on a Wednesday. In spellings, children will learn a new spelling concept every week and there will be a Showbie/Spelling Shed home learning task related to the spelling concept being taught in class.

Reading continues to be hugely important! It is expected that children will read at home for at least 15 minutes every day; this will need to be signed in their planners by an adult at home a minimum of 3 times a week. They have a new bingo book selection to choose from as well as 'Ready Reader' books available.

Rainbow Challenges



- Design your own WW2 propaganda poster.
- Code breaking time! Make up your own code, write a secret message and then de-code it.
- Create a 20-minute fitness regime for a soldier. Follow it for 2 weeks, recording your heart rate before and after.
- Read a range of WW2 poetry and use it to inspire writing your own war poem.
- Compare British and German war planes and create a fact file.
- Create a model of an Anderson shelter.
- Create your own map of a fictional place and include grid references as well as map symbols.

PE



Our PE days this term are Wednesday and Friday; these lessons will be taught by our sports coach, Mr Newson. These lessons will focus on orienteering and hockey. Please ensure your child comes into school in the correct kit on these days. Children should wear either the school PE top or a plain white t-shirt with black shorts/jogging bottoms. Warm clothes will be needed for outside PE as the weather becomes cooler; this includes a dark coloured jumper as children should not wear their school jumper for PE. Long hair must be tied up and earrings need to be removed for safety reasons.

Year 6 Staff

- Miss Thurlow**
Thailand Class teacher
- Mr Dominy**
South Africa Class teacher
- Mrs Heath**
UKS2 Lead, teaching Thailand on Wednesdays
- Miss More**
Intervention teacher
- Mrs Loker-Steele**
LSA

SATs

Another focus for Year 6 will be preparation for their SATs. This academic year, the SATs will take place during the week of **13th May 2024**. The children will be tested on their reading, maths, spelling and grammar. Writing assessments will be portfolio-based and will be teacher assessed in June.

Recommended read



The Lion above the Door
Onjali Q. Rauf

Touching on themes of historical racism, The Lion Above the Door shines a light on the stories our history books have yet to contain and the power of friendships that can last through generations.

Deadline for applications for secondary school places: **31st October 2023**