

**John Ruskin School**  
**Parents Information Sheet**  
**Summer 2018**

**Research Topics: Summer 1 - Chembakolli**

**Summer 2 - Victorians**

What Purple Class do in Summer 1 & 2	Hints for helping your child
<p><b>Literacy</b>  <b>Explanation Texts:</b> Writing about common processes such as Where we Get Honey or How the Digestive System Works.</p> <p><b>Plays:</b> Reading and acting out plays using costumes, puppets. Practice changing voice for different characters and meaning.</p> <p><b>Stories from Imaginary Worlds:</b> Reading stories set in imaginary worlds such as the Wizard of Oz and Peter Pan. Describe setting, characters and plot. Plan and write own stories.</p>	<p>Encourage your children to ask ‘how’ and ‘why’ questions.</p> <p>If possible take your child to see a children’s play.</p> <p>Read stories set in imaginary worlds with your child. Encourage them to create their own imaginary world.</p>
<p><b>Numeracy</b>            Some of the topics covered this term will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.</li> <li>• Place value in 2, 3 and 4 digit numbers.</li> <li>• Times tables, particularly 2, 5 and 10, then 3, 4, 6, 7, and 8.</li> <li>• We will be relating multiplication to division and practicing a method for calculating division.</li> <li>• Rounding numbers to the nearest 10 and 100.</li> <li>• Solving practical problems using the addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division skills they have learnt. Problems will include working with money, length, weight and capacity.</li> <li>• Recording, presenting and interpreting information in tables and graphs.</li> <li>• Using rulers, measuring jugs, and scales to measure length, capacity and weight in M, cm, L, ml, Kg and g.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage your child to use these skills in real life situations, for example dealing with money or weighing food.</li> <li>• Talk about the time throughout the day. Ask them to tell you what time it is. Then what an hour before and an hour after would be.</li> <li>• Ensure your child understands and completes their maths homework.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Science</b>            In summer 1 our topic is <b>Solids and Liquids</b>. We will be observing what happens to solids and liquids when they are heated and cooled. We will also be learning about reversible and irreversible changes.</p> <p>In summer 2 our topic is <b>Habitats</b>. We will be comparing and grouping animals and plants by looking at their similarities and differences and what makes them suitable for living in their habitat.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Melt butter and Chocolate and observe what happens.                Vocabulary: <b>solid, liquid, melt, cool, freeze, reversible and irreversible change.</b></li> <li>• Go to the <b>park</b> or in the <b>garden</b> to look for plants and animals.</li> <li>• Encourage your child to describe them and find any similarities and differences between them.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss animal groups: mammals, reptiles, birds, amphibians, fish. Watch TV, read books, do Internet searches about creatures and their environment. Vocabulary you could use: <b>feathers, fur, shell, leaves, branches, thorns, mammals, reptiles, birds, amphibians, fish</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>ICT</b> In Summer 1 our topic is <b>Writing for Different Audiences</b> We will use a word processing package. We will learn to change the font and the size of the writing. We will insert pictures, save and print our work.</p> <p>In Summer 2 our topic is <b>Branching databases</b>. We will be using different programs for collecting and presenting information. We will use different types of questions to find things out.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If you have a computer at home, allow your child to experiment with a word processing package such as Word.</li> <li>You could read information books on animals and ask you child to think of some questions about animals to find out the answers to.</li> </ul>
<p><b>History</b> Our topic is about the <b>Victorians</b> will be taught in Summer 2. We will be learning what life was like for Victorian children.</p>	<p>Observe Victorian style buildings near your home.</p> <p>Vocabulary: <b>Victorians</b>,</p>
<p><b>Geography</b> Our topic about <b>The Indian Village of Chembakolli</b> will be taught in Summer 1. We will learn about the culture and lifestyle of people who live in Chemabkolli.</p>	<p>Find Indian and Chembakolli on a map or globe. Make some Indian food at home or visit an Indian restaurant.</p>
<p><b>Art</b> Summer 2 Topic is <b>Take a Seat</b> We will be looking at different designs of chairs and then designing and making our own model chair for an imaginary world.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Help your child to observe different types of chair around your home. Discuss what they are made from and how they are constructed.</li> </ul>
<p><b>DT</b> Summer 1 topic is <b>Electricity Board Game</b>  We are going to design and make our own board game and incorporate an electrical circuit.</p>	<p>Look at different times of game and toys and compare if and how they use electricity.</p> <p>Vocab: <b>Input, Output, Electrical circuit, lights, sound, movement</b>,</p>
<p><b>RE</b> Our topic this term is <b>Judaism</b>. We will learning about the symbols, special buildings and beliefs of Jews. We will also read Jewish stories and discuss their meaning.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You could discuss your own beliefs/ religion with your child.</li> <li>Share stories with your child from other religions and talk about their meaning.</li> <li>Point out places of worship for different religions such as a Synagogue, Church, Mosque, Temple</li> </ul>
<p><b>Gross motor</b> Sport's Day</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take your child to the park for running, sports and other healthy activities.</li> <li>Take your child swimming.</li> <li>Provide your child with a balanced diet.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Fine Motor</b> Handwriting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Holding the pencil using the tripod grip</li> <li>- Practicing the correct sitting position for good handwriting</li> <li>- Practicing the joins</li> </ul>	<p>Encourage children to tear up paper, roll it up, play with elastic bands making spider webs between fingers. There's a great website that helps children with their touch typing: <a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/typing/flash/stage1.shtml">www.bbc.co.uk/schools/typing/flash/stage1.shtml</a></p>
<p><b>Learning Skills</b> Thinking skills, creative thinking, problem solving and reasoning. Developing a sense of self worth and understanding of self and others.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage your child to complete their homework every week and assist them where necessary.</li> <li>• Talk about themselves and their community.</li> </ul>
<p><b>French</b> This term, the children will learn how to describe animals and how to talk about the weather.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Get your child to name some animals in French and describe the weather everyday using vocabulary learnt.</li> </ul>

**Speech and Language Therapy advice:**

**Conversation Skills:** Practising conversations and sharing information from school, or about any of the activities recommended above, at home can help your child to develop their use of vocabulary, sentences and their ability to retell events. You can help them by doing the following:

- Special Time: Take time out everyday, even if its just 5-10 minutes, to sit down and talk to your child. Try to reduce other distractions e.g. turn off the TV, put the shopping away first.
- Sit face to face at the same level so that you can make eye contact and see each others' faces. Encourage your child to make eye contact.
- Ask your child questions about their day/the activity you did. You can start from a more general question, e.g. "How was your day?" and then get more specific, e.g. "What did you do in History today?"
- Asking them about the topics and vocabulary listed above will give them a chance to practice and remember what they are learning in school.
  - Use the opportunity to model how they can use topic vocabulary.
  - If you feel they have made a mistake, try to stay positive, but also give them a model for the right way to use a word/sentence, e.g. "We learnt about people being hurted" – you could say "Wow, good remembering – You and John learnt about people **being wounded in war.**"
- Encourage your child to take turns in the conversation and to ask you questions about your day too.
- If you like, you can record your chats in a diary where you can write what you have talked about – share the writing with your child. You could also ask him/her to draw a picture of what happened in their day and talk about it.

**Additional Useful Information**

Homework is given out on Fridays and must be completed and returned by the following Wednesday.

Reading books will usually be changed daily if they have been read at home. Please sign and comment in their reading record to say they have read it. Try to read with your child on a daily basis, this will improve their writing, listening and reading skills. At least 10 minutes every day is best.

Spellings will be given out weekly on Monday to practice at home for the spelling test on Friday.

Children who get all of their spellings correct will receive a sticker that week.

Swimming kits are needed on Thursday and PE kits on Friday.

Please check your child's book bag daily for letters which are sent home.