

John Ruskin School
Parents Information Sheet
Summer 2021

Research Topics: Summer 1 - Ancient Egypt, Summer 2 – Earthquakes and Volcanoes

| What Purple Class do in Summer 1 & 2 | Hints for helping your child |
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| <p><u>Literacy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Texts based on Historical Facts: Reading ‘Ug, Boy Genius of The Stone Age’. Link to history topic covered earlier in the year. • Stories from Imaginary Worlds: Reading stories set in imaginary worlds such as ‘Leon and the Place Between’. Describe setting, characters and plot. Plan and write own stories. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage your children to ask ‘how’, ‘when’ and ‘why’ questions. • Read stories set in imaginary worlds with your child. Encourage them to create their own imaginary world. |
| <p><u>Numeracy</u></p> <p>Some of the topics covered this term will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. • Place value in 2, 3 and 4 digit numbers. • Times tables, particularly 2, 5 and 10, then 3, 4, 6, 7, and 8. • We will be relating multiplication to division and practicing a method for calculating division. • Rounding numbers to the nearest 10 and 100. • Solving practical problems using the addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division skills they have learnt. Problems will include working with money, length, weight and capacity. • Recording, presenting and interpreting information in tables and graphs. • Using rulers, measuring jugs, and scales to measure length, capacity and weight in M, cm, L, ml, Kg and g. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage your child to use these skills in real life situations, for example dealing with money or weighing food. • 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. • Ensure your child understands and completes their maths homework. NB Maths homework is a repetition of work the child has already done in class that week. |
| <p><u>Science</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In summer 1 our topic is completing Plants work. • In summer 2 our topic is Rocks. We will be identifying and comparing rocks by looking at their features and their similarities and differences. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Go to the park or in the garden to look for plants. • Encourage your child to describe them and find the different parts of the plant. • Look for rocks in the garden or at the park. Get your child to describe them. |

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| <p><u>ICT</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In Summer 1 our topic is Writing for Different Audiences. 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. In Summer 2 our topic is Programming-Scratch. We will be using different instructions to write simple programmes. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you have a computer at home, allow your child to work with Word. You could talk to your child about instructions and practise real- life ones e.g walk four steps forward, then turn left. |
| <p><u>History</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our topic is about the Ancient Egypt. We will be learning what life was like for people in Ancient Egypt. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watch Horrible Histories videos about Ancient Egypt. |
| <p><u>Geography</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our topic about The Mysteries of Mother Nature: Earthquakes and Volcanoes. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do an internet search about volcanoes. |
| <p><u>Art</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will be looking at the work of Henri Matisse. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do an internet search on Henri Matisse. Compare his paintings. |
| <p><u>DT</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are going to design and make our own Canopic jars. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do an internet search on Canopic jars for design ideas. |
| <p><u>RE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our topic this term is learning about the symbols and signs associated with the major religions. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You could discuss your own beliefs/ religion with your child. Point out places of worship for different religions such as a Synagogue, Church, Mosque, Temple. |
| <p><u>P.E.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Athletics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take your child to the park for running, sports and other healthy activities. Provide your child with a healthy and balanced diet. |
| <p><u>Fine Motor</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Handwriting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Holding the pencil using the tripod grip - Practicing the correct sitting position for good handwriting - Practicing the joins | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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: www.bbc.co.uk/schools/typing/flash/stage1.shtml |

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| <p><u>Learning Skills</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thinking skills, creative thinking, problem solving and reasoning. • Developing a sense of self- worth and understanding of self and others. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage your child to complete their homework every week and assist them where necessary. • Talk about themselves and their community. |
| <p><u>French</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This term, the children will learn how to describe animals and how to talk about the weather. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get your child to name some animals in French and describe the weather everyday using vocabulary learnt. |

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 Thursday.
- **Reading books** will usually be changed daily **if they have been read at home and the reading record has been signed.** 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 as part of the homework and words will be practised at school on Mondays.
- **PE kits** are needed on **Mondays.**
- Please **check your child's book bag daily** for letters which are sent home.