

Thriftwood School



Curriculum Summary

Spring Term 2020

MIDDLE SCHOOL



JAY, ROOK, MAGPIE AND CROW

PE

Both Year 7 and 8 will be swimming this term (on a Tuesday morning) with Year 8 going until February half term and then Year 7 from Feb half term until the end of the school year. Lessons will focus on:

Gymnastics – learning and performing skills with accuracy.

Dance – learning, creating and performing dance for an audience.

Games focus - running, dodging, tagging, passing and scoring in activities such as tag rugby, basketball and handball.

Forest School

Jay and Magpie will continue with Forest School until half term, then Crow and Rook will take part after half term until the end of the year. We will be following their ideas and activities will involve building and lighting fires for warmth or cooking, using natural materials to create art and using tools to make things. They will be working with others and developing their confidence and social skills.

Maths

Numeracy will focus on practical work and “real life” problems as much as possible. This term we are focussing on:

Numbers and the Number System – place value, ordering and rounding; properties of numbers and number systems; fractions and decimals.

Calculations – understanding addition and subtraction; understanding multiplication and division; rapid recall of multiplication and division facts; mental calculation strategies; checking results of calculations.

Shape, space and measures – know and use the relationships between familiar units of length, mass and capacity; reasoning about shapes; making decisions, problems involving measures

Handling data; organising and interpreting data.

Literacy

Also our Literacy work this term will focus around the text of “Billionaire Boy” by David Walliams. We will be visiting the theatre in Southend and watching the film to help bring the text to life.

Skills being taught will include developing note taking, letter writing, recounts of events and comprehension of texts. Pupils will also be working upon reciting and writing their own address.

In class we will also be encouraging pupils to share ideas and thoughts which will improve their confidence and speaking skills.

We will be exploring the meanings of new words and focusing on understanding of reading or verbal instructions. Pupils will have spellings to learn at home which will be supported with lessons that will teach the spelling patterns.

We would encourage you to read to or listen to your child read at home as it is such an important part of learning.

Topic

Our topic this term is "Law and Order." We will be learning about the importance of rules, making choices, consequences and dispute resolution.

We will have a visit from a police officer to talk about the law and a trip to the police museum in Chelmsford for a real life CSI experience. We will also be travelling to London for a mock court case at the Royal Courts of Justice.

Science

During science lessons this term, year 7 will be looking in closer detail at the properties of materials. Lessons will include comparing and grouping together everyday materials on the basis of their properties; including their hardness, solubility, transparency, conductivity (electrical and thermal), and response to magnets.

Year 8 will be looking at Light and Astronomy. Lessons will look at how light travels, how we see, how can mirrors see behind us and how do shadows created by the sun change during a day?

PSHCEE

Topics this term include:

- Dealing with change
- Road safety
- Bullying
- Being safe and playing safely in and out of school
- Making and keeping friends
- Identifying and managing feelings

Top Tips

Sharing books and reading regularly at home, plus you can read signs and posters together when you are out and about.

Getting pupils to learn their own address, phone number and date of birth as this is such an important skill to have.

Watch then let your child help you cook every week

Play card or dice games twice a week with your child

Make lists together for shopping and jobs to do

Show them and the practise making their own bed in the morning

Be able to wash their own body in the shower or bath

Watch the news together and talk about topical issues