Eastgate Academy

EMAT EASTERN MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST

Curriculum Newsletter – Years three and four.

Our Newsletter will give you an overview of our learning for this half-term in all our subjects.

Literacy - Light & Dark



Non-Fiction Unit – Light & Dark. This unit explores the life of nocturnal British animals.

Taken from the writing scheme 'The Write Stuff'

Lessons concentrate on the teaching of writing with a sharp focus on the craft and construction of sentences. Each Sentence Stacking lesson is organised into three learning chunks. Incorporated is the teaching of the following grammar: conjunctions, precise verb choices, prepositions, adverbs of time and how, fronted adverbials, similes, present perfect tense and onomatopoeia.

Following this gathering of knowledge, vocabulary and sentence construction your child is well prepared to write an explanation text. If you would like to support your child at home, please spend some time talking about nocturnal British animals and perhaps visit the library to find books about them.

Maths

This half term, the children will begin by finishing our place value learning, developing their understanding of numbers up to 1,000 and 10,000. They will continue to develop their skills in comparing and ordering numbers, estimating on number lines and rounding, before completing the unit with Roman numerals.

We will then move on to addition and subtraction. Children will build their confidence with mental strategies before developing formal written methods for addition and subtraction, including calculations that require exchanging. They will also explore complements to 100 and 1,000, estimation and inverse operations, before choosing efficient methods to solve problems.

Finally, we will begin multiplication and division. Children will use arrays, sharing and grouping to strengthen their understanding before developing their recall of multiplication and related division facts across a range of times tables.

Geography

Children will be exploring the unit of spatial sense. Lessons concentrate on maps, compasses and symbols before moving on to grid references and scale. This will enable the children to develop their map reading skills as well as coordinates in maths. Children will also have the opportunity to compare different locations. They will look specifically at locations that are rural or built-up. This will mean they can identify a range of physical features.

Science

This half term, the children will be learning about how animals and plants are classified. They will be sorting animals into vertebrates and invertebrates. They will then break these down further into more specific categories. The children will also learn that plants can be classified into flowering and non-flowering varieties. This will then enable them to develop their skills to classify living things using a key and produce their own.

Spanish

This half term, the children will begin by developing their Spanish phonics and pronunciation, focusing on key sound patterns so that they can speak with greater accuracy. They will then move on to the 'I am learning Spanish' unit, where they will learn basic greetings, how to ask somebody how they are feeling and how to respond, as well as how to ask and answer, 'What is your name?'. They will also learn to count from 1–10 and recognise and use ten key colours in Spanish.

Finally, the children will study animals. They will learn and consolidate ten animal nouns with the correct indefinite article, explore how indefinite articles are used in Spanish and begin to use 'soy' ('I am') when talking about animals.

Music

This half term, the children will be exploring the unit 'A Shining Performance'. They will learn to recognise and play the notes G, A and B on a musical instrument, developing their understanding of the stave, musical notation, beat and rhythm. Children will learn and perform Sparkle In The Sun, working together to play different instrumental parts as an ensemble. They will also explore how different sounds and instruments can be used to represent stories, images and ideas through music.

As the unit progresses, the children will become composers, working collaboratively to create, rehearse and perform their own piece of music inspired by a 'Glittering Night'. They

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will use the notes G, A and B alongside different rhythms, instrumental sounds and an ostinato, while considering musical features such as melody, dynamics, timbre and structure.

RSE/PSHE

The children will be exploring the unit titled Online World. The children will learn more about what the internet can be used for and discuss the benefits and challenges of online and in-person communication. Beyond this, they will learn how to communicate respectfully and appropriately in an online environment. The children will be able to discuss and highlight how disrespectful communication can have a negative impact on others and how it could be deemed bullying behaviour. They will develop their drama skills by playing out scenarios that will help them recognise positive and negative behaviour and whether it is a good idea to accept friend requests online.

Design Technology

In this unit of work children make an apple crumble. The unit concentrates on how apples can be used in cooking as well as eaten raw and the different varieties of apple that are produced at different times throughout the course of the year in Great Britain. The lessons also introduce how apples can form a part of a healthy diet. Throughout the unit, the children's skills of peeling and chopping are developed. These skills, as well as how to core an apple, are rehearsed before the children start following the recipe, and work together in groups to prepare and bake an apple crumble. The children will then taste and evaluate their creation.