

Amethyst Class Newsletter – April 2025

Dear Parents,

I hope you have all enjoyed your Easter break.

We will continue with our reward system of house points with a focus on rewards for reading at home and completing spelling homework.

Literacy	We will be looking at picture books from the USA and will read and enjoy contemporary American picture books including <i>Where the Wild Things Are</i> and <i>It's a Book</i> . We will also be looking at <i>Watercress</i> by Andrea Wang and <i>Make Way for Ducklings</i> by Robert McClosky. The non-fiction focus is <i>Food Stories</i> and the texts that will be used to support this are <i>I Will Not ever Never Eat a Tomato</i> and <i>Eat You Peas Daisy</i> by Lauren Child and Nick Sharratt respectively. The poetry strand will use the anthology called <i>Aliens Stole My Underpants</i> by Brian Moses. You will find more detailed information on the website.
Maths	We will continue to follow the National Curriculum and topics will include Number and Calculation, Position and Time, Place Value, Addition and Subtraction, Multiplication and Division and Using Money, Shape and Data.
Science	This term we will be looking at living things and their habitats including food chains.
DT and Art	In Art we will be exploring the work of artist Giuseppe Arcimboldo and in DT we will link the project to our Science when we look at <i>Moving Monsters</i> .
Geography and History	First half term – We will be looking War & Remembrance. Second half term - We will be looking at "Life in the City" and how it differs from living in more rural areas.
RE	We will be looking at how do we show how we care for others and asking the question, 'why does it matter?' The children will then learn what is meant by 'good news' that Christians believe came from Jesus.
Computing	The two over-arching topics are <i>Creating Media</i> and <i>Programming</i> . The media emphasis is photography and the programming will involve robot algorithms.
PE	Our PE day will be Thursday afternoon. We will spend as much time as possible outdoors for PE focussing on Athletics and ideally practising Yoga outdoors too. Please come to school on Thursdays in PE kit.
PHSE	We will be learning about Diverse Britain and Digital Wellbeing.
Music	The first half of the term we will be looking at a dance song involving meeting and greeting called <i>As I Was Walking Down The Street</i> , with a time change from march to jig. There will be opportunities to use movement and instruments to experience the change in metre. The children will then be shown how they can create new lyrics, learn a partner dance, and create instrumental accompaniments to the song. The second half term will see us looking at another new composition called <i>Come Dance With Me</i> . This lively warm-up song works well with movement and provides a good springboard into composing new lyrics and actions. The call-and-response nature of the song translates well into instrumental work, with the children creating their own percussive responses and playing simple rhythm patterns on tuned instruments.

You can best support your child by:

REGULAR READING

Please listen to your child read to you every night if at all possible. Being able to read is such a boost to children's self-esteem and obviously opens up the rest of the curriculum.

A competent reader will progress not only with their writing and spelling but will also be more confident in other subjects.

WEEKLY SPELLINGS

These will come home with a space to practise the words for five days each week using the LOOK>READ>COVER>WRITE>CHECK method. Initially there will be a focus on children being able to read and spell age appropriate high frequency words moving onto common exception words. We give the children their spellings on Friday and have our class spelling test on Thursday.

Again, being able to practice at home will greatly improve their confidence and competence when at school.

PLEASE ENSURE SPELLING FOLDERS ARE RETURNED EACH THURSDAY.

WATER BOTTLES

Please provide your child with a named bottle of water to keep in the class during the day.

As always please feel free to contact me via e-mail headteacher@ridgmont-lower.org.uk

Thank you so much for your on-going support.

Allison Jakes

Headteacher

Gina Foster

Higher Level Teaching Assistant