



Dean Gibson Primary School, Kendal

Swifts Spring Newsletter

Curiosity, Diversity, Outdoors

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to share with you an overview of the topics that your child will be learning this half of the Spring term in Swifts Class. At Dean Gibson, we value the important partnership between home and school. Please use the information below to support your child with their learning over the coming weeks.

Reading

Thank you for the effort that you put into reading with your child at home. This is the key to developing skills across the curriculum and the more you can do, the more your child will be able to use these skills in all areas of their learning. Remember to talk to your child about what they are reading as well as listening to them – the type of questions that need an explanation should be combined with fact finding questions.

PE

This half term will be doing gymnastics in the school hall on Thursday and swimming on Friday. Please ensure your child has a full PE kit including: wear black or maroon tracksuit bottoms or shorts, a plain white t-shirt, a zipped hooded top/sweatshirt and trainers for Thursday. No football kits or other coloured items are to be worn. For safety reasons children are discouraged from wearing jewellery at school. Though, if they do, we ask that all pupils remove jewellery before PE including earrings, if they cannot be removed then plasters should be provided to cover them up.

Please can all items be named. Also, just a reminder that trainers should not be worn as school shoes.

Outdoor Day

Each term, there will be a day when children will be asked to come in their wellies and outdoor clothes (mud will be expected) and they will spend the day outdoors. Outdoor learning has many benefits, including improving children's health, engages them with their learning and creates a better connection with nature. Playing teaches children critical life skills, such as teamwork or resilience, but it is also central to children's enjoyment of childhood. More information will follow.

Snacks

If your child/ren wishes to bring a snack to enjoy at break time, please can you ensure it is of the healthy variety i.e. a piece of fruit, cereal bar etc. they should not be eating crisps or chocolate biscuits as a snack. Children should put this in their trays once they come into class and they should not be choosing from their lunchboxes for snack time.

If you have any questions about the information below, please feel free to make an appointment or call into school and see us.




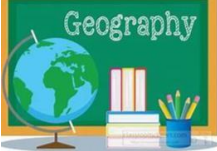


Thank you for your continuing support,

Mrs Muhvic





Curriculum Overview Spring 2- 2024, Swifts

Below are the topics that we are going to be studying this half term.

Subjects	Swifts will be learning about....	Subjects	Swifts will be learning about....
 RE	<p><u>Jesus, the Saviour</u></p> <p>In RE we will be learning about the Lent, the significance of Jesus's entry into Jerusalem and understanding the events of the Holy Week. We will reflect on the suffering of Jesus and the importance for us of the resurrection of Jesus.</p>	 Science	<p><u>Plants</u></p> <p>In Science we will be exploring Pollination as well as Seed dispersal and concluding our investigation on the impact of light on plant growth.</p> <p><u>States of matter</u> We will be learning about the water cycle.</p>
 English	<p><u>We are reading The Girl Who Stole an Elephant by Nizrana Farook</u></p> <p>We will be reading for pleasure as well as a writing non-chronological report and an explanation text. In addition, we will study Poetry.</p>	 Geography	<p><u>Looking at Tropical Rainforests</u></p> <p>We will be learning about the locations of tropical rainforests all over the world, the layers of a tropical rainforest and why the rainforests are important for our planet. We will also be discussing the threat to rainforests and how to protect them.</p>
 Maths	<p><u>Fractions</u> <u>Measurement</u></p> <p>We will be counting in fractions, learning about unit and non-unit fractions and fractions on a number line. We will also be measuring length and perimeter, mass and capacity.</p>	 History	<p><u>Early Islamic Civilisation</u></p> <p>We will be learning about the Early Islamic Empire and where it was situated, the House of Wisdom, achievements in medicine of that time and the important individuals.</p>



 <p>Art</p>	<p><u>Watercolour, Tropical Rainforests</u></p> <p>In Art we will be looking at the works of Henry Rousseau and Abel Rodrigez to inspire us for our watercolour painting, drawing from observation and creating a collage.</p>	 <p>Music</p>	<p><u>Compose using your imagination</u></p> <p>We will listen to music and learn new songs which will give us inspiration to compose our own music. Singing and listening are at the heart of each lesson. We will play, improvise and compose using a selection of these notes: C, D, E, F, F#, G, G#, A, B.</p>
<p>PE</p> 	<p><u>Gymnastics</u> <u>Swimming</u></p> <p>We will be doing Gymnastics in the school hall on Thursday and on Friday we are having our swimming lessons. Thursday is the class teacher's PPA time so Mrs Jackson will be teaching in the afternoon.</p>	<p>HRSE/PSHE</p> 	<p><u>Created to Love Others</u> <u>Religious Understanding</u> <u>Personal Relationships</u></p> <p>We will be exploring the individual's relationship with others. Building on the understanding that we have been created out of love and for love. We will explore how we take this calling into our family, friendships and relationships, and look at strategies for developing healthy relationships and keeping safe both online and in our daily lives.</p>
 <p>Spanish</p>	<p><u>Wider World</u> <u>Easter Celebrations</u></p> <p>We will learn vocabulary related to wider world, names of countries and cities.</p>	<p>Computing</p> 	<p><u>Programming-Sequencing</u> <u>Sounds</u></p> <p>We will be exploring the concept of sequencing through Scratch. We will be introduced to a selection of motion, sound and event blocks and use them to create our own programmes. The final project will be to make a piano.</p>
<p>DT</p> 	<p><u>Levers and Linkages</u></p> <p>We will understand and use lever and linkage mechanisms, distinguish between fixed and loose pivots. We will also know and use technical vocabulary relevant to the project.</p>		



Swifts, Spring 2 Homework Grid

Each week you can choose **one** of these activities to complete for your homework, your books will be sent home each Friday and please can they be returned by the following Wednesday, you can include a note, photo or copy of the piece of work you have completed.

Additional homework choices for Spring2 have been added in green script.

<p style="text-align: center;">English</p> <p>Ensure you are reading at home, write a book review of one of the most recent books you have read: what did you like about it? Would you change any parts and why?</p> <p style="color: green;">Additionally, in Spring term 2 we will practise our spellings of the week. Spellings will be handed out on Friday to practise for the next week's spelling test.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Maths</p> <p>Do an hour of Timetables Rock stars over the week. Spend your coins and draw a picture of your updated character. Additionally, you could practise Maths on Top Marks Maths - Topmarks Search</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">RE</p> <p style="color: green;">What is your favourite prayer? Lent is the time when we focus on prayer and giving, learn a new prayer and make a note of it in your Homework book.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Science</p> <p>Draw a potted plant if you have one at home, or a plant you would like to have. Label its parts, research its life cycle and make notes, drawings or add a photograph.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Geography</p> <p>Research one of the rainforests of the world and write about the wildlife in it. You could include pictures or drawings of your own.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">History</p> <p>Research one of the Early Islamic Scholars and describe his contributions to modern medicine.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Art</p> <p>Choose a watercolour that you like, either recreate it in your own way, provide information about it or the artist in any form you prefer.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">DT</p> <p>Make a list of objects in your home and garden that have levers and linkages.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Computing</p> <p>Explain to your people at home how you can stay safe online, what should you avoid? What would you do if you had any worries about being online?</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Spanish</p> <p>Create a list of your school subjects and the contents of your pencil case in Spanish with English translation.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Music</p> <p>Listen to your favourite song and think about why you like it, ask the people in your family what their favourite song is and why. Have a go at writing your own lyrics for a song you know.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PE</p> <p>Tell someone at home what key skills have we been learning in our gymnastics lessons.</p> <p>Go outdoors and spend time being adventurous.</p>



Swifts Class Timetable, Spring2, 2023-2024

Times	8:50-8:55	8:55-9:15	9:15-9:30	9:30-10:30	10:30-10:45	10:45-11:45	11:45-12:00	12:00-12:55	12:55-1:05	1:05-2:00	2:10-2:20	2:20-3:10	3:10-3:20	3:20
Monday	Register	Whole School Prayer and Liturgy	Spelling	English	Break	Maths	Handwriting	Lunch	Read	Geography	RUN	Spanish	Music	Home Time
Tuesday	Register	Intervention	Spelling	English		Maths	Prayer and Liturgy		Read	Science	RUN	Science	RE	
Wednesday	Register	Wednesday Word Singing Assembly	Spelling	English		Maths	TTRS		Read	RE	RUN	History	Storytime	
Thursday	Register	TTRS		English		VIPERS			Read	Computing	PE		Picture News	
										PPA	PPA			
Friday	Register	Intervention	Swimming Y3 /Maths Y4			Swimming Y4 /Maths Y3			Read	DT	ART		Celebration Assembly	