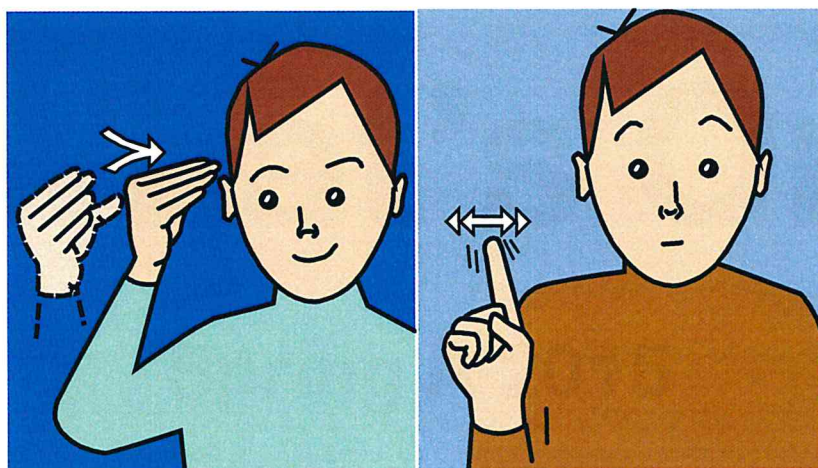


Longwill

a primary school for Deaf children

What's On

Spring A 2015



Welcome back!

We hope you have all had a wonderful Christmas holiday and that the children are ready to have lots of fun with their learning over the next few weeks!

This term our topic is 'People who help us'. We will start by learning about what foods we need to eat to keep us healthy and who can help us when we become ill. We will learn about what happens when we go to see the doctor and the dentist.

We will then move on to learn about other people who help us including the people who can help us cross the road and we will learn how to cross the road safely. Then we will learn about fire fighters and even go on a visit to a fire station. How exciting!

In order to encourage the children to develop their communication skills we will continue with Wonderful Wednesday's show and tell session. A letter will be sent out to confirm the topics for each session but we will start with talking about what we did in the holidays and sharing our photographs on the children's PSPs.

In maths we will continue to develop the children's knowledge of number through songs, stories and practical activities. We will also continue to develop our knowledge of colour by learning about the colours white and black.

P.E. will take place on a Thursday morning and we will start our work on tennis, developing our hand-eye co-ordination skills. We will also be having dance lessons with a specialist dance teacher every Friday morning and on Monday 12th January we will be starting swimming lessons!

This half term we will continue to have gardening on alternate Monday mornings and visit Bellfield Infant School on alternate Tuesday afternoons starting on 13th January. Please can you make sure that your children bring a suitable coat to school on these days - appropriate for the weather.

Thank you in advance for all your support and we look forward to working with you!

The Nursery Team



Hello Everyone,

Welcome back to Autumn Spring A. Please read the exciting things your child will be learning.

This Spring we are finding out about the super people who are help us- Our Super Heroes.

Please send in photos and video clips of your child experiencing exciting new learning at home. Also, throughout the year, check your child's PSP regularly as teachers and children record lots of video clips and photos throughout the school day and this is a great way to keep in touch. Another place to look at is our school website (www.longwill.bham.sch.uk)!

Pupils Welcome back to all of our Reception children.

Staff The Reception team would like to welcome our new teaching assistants Kiran Jabbal to the team.

Stay & Play We are excited to continue with Thursday afternoon play and stay sessions; all are welcome. It is a lovely opportunity for pre-nursery aged children and parents to meet each other and get to know us here at Longwill. Come and join us!

Swimming: This term we are all very excited to remind you that each child in Reception will be having swimming lessons at Northfield swimming baths. This will start from Monday 12th January. Each child will need a clearly labelled bag with their name on it. Please send in swimming costumes, swimming nappies if needed, a towel all clearly labelled with your child's name.

Active Learning:

Trips

We will continue to visit our Nursery and Reception friends at Bellfield Infant school on alternate Tuesdays.

Our Reception pupils will enjoying an exciting trip to Safe side at Handsworth where they will be able to learn about the super heroes that help us and also dress up as fire fighters. **Wednesday 21st January**

PSPs

We would like to encourage all pupils and parents to use the PSPs to capture exciting new learning at home. Please use the PSPs to share signed stories with your child.

Understanding the World

This half term we are focusing on encouraging your child to "Show interest in different occupations and ways of life". We will be investigating the people that help us at home and at school, at the hospital and the dentist and those who look after our pets. We will also be looking at ways that we can keep safe ourselves. We always look forward to seeing their new learning or their own personal experiences on the PSP's. We enjoy watching and sharing them with the other children.

Some ideas for you: encourage your child to draw pictures of those in his/her family. To play fun activities to encourage your child to fingerspell the names of family members.

We would love to have a family photo of each child to talk about with your child in Reception.

Physical Development *(please make sure your child has a labeled bag of PE clothes in school)*

P.E Each Thursday, the children will be exploring their use of tennis balls and bats. They will learn how to use the equipment safely and start to be aware of those around them. The children will look at hitting a ball held by themselves and then a ball thrown to them. Some may develop their skills to hit a ball over a bench or net.

Dance Garry will teach our children each Friday to develop a sequence related to stranger danger and being a super hero.

Thank you for your continued support- Alison Jackson and Team.



This half term our new topic will be **transport**. In computing we will be learning about programming. We will be inputting algorithms into beebots to see if we can make them follow specific routes. We will then link this to directions in geography by learning about the use of compass directions on maps. We will then create our own maps for our beebots and use our knowledge about directions in planning its route.

In science we will be learning about the properties of different materials and why metal is a good material to make cars and other vehicles. In English we will be writing stories and we will be learning about this using the Disney story Cars.

Photographs and videos from home on the PSP will help pupils to share and discuss their weekend news.

PE continues to be on Mondays and children will need shorts, t-shirt and pumps. Swimming is on Thursdays and children will need a swimming costume/trunks and a towel. Dance and drumming both continue this term on a Friday and pupils will be given more opportunities to create their own music and dances.

Home learning will be given out on Fridays and needs to be returned to school on Wednesdays. We hope that you will support your child with these tasks each week. Please share and discuss stories with your child and hear them read regularly.

We look forward to a busy and exciting half term.

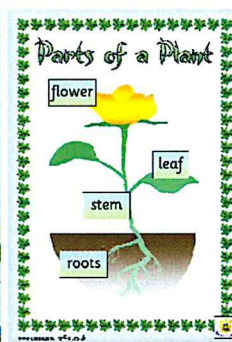
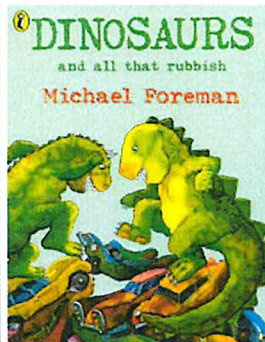


This half term, our topic is Planet Earth. This is an exciting topic which gives us the opportunity to link subject areas, for example geography and RE. These areas will focus on the earth itself - how beautiful it is and who should look after it. There will also be the chance to revisit a favourite story as a starting point- "Dinosaurs and All That rubbish" by Michael Foreman. We will be making a weather chart and noting the weather on a daily basis, some of us are hoping for snow!

In science, we will be studying plants. This work will link to our gardening work with Hannah, reminding ourselves of the different parts of plants. We will be growing cress in class too. This latter activity will provide different environments for the cress from ideal to poor. We will categorise different plants and review the best conditions for survival. Hopefully we will learn how to care best for the plants and link it to our PSHE work about caring for others.

Our art work will, also, have a round the world theme. We will complete some sketches of the local environment, as well as looking at art work from further afield, for example Australian dot pictures and art to celebrate Chinese new year. We will take the opportunity to design a new playground too.

This should be a very interesting and practical half term.



This half term we will be starting a new learning journey topic, 'Volcanoes'. This will incorporate lots of Geography objectives such as locating volcanoes on a map, understanding what a volcano is and why they erupt. We will start the year by making our own volcano which will erupt.

The topic 'Volcanoes' will also lend itself to exploring rocks in Science. The children will learn the names of different types of rocks, where they are found and then they will investigate how soft or hard they are. We will look at erosion and how it affects buildings.

We will continue with gardening, alternate Mondays with Hannah; we will be able to make comparisons as the seasons change, identifying plants and trees which survive through the winter and those which start to grow early spring.

In PE our focus will be invasion games; this will include sports such as netball and football. The expectation will be that the children will develop passing, scoring and defending skills. Dance with Gary will continue to be every Friday. Again, we ask that you ensure your child has their PE kit with them each week, just check it still fits. Dance will remain indoors but we may go outside to use the new netball posts, so jumpers and jogging bottoms would be ideal. Swimming will continue to be every Thursday, so please send the children in with their named costume and towel, in a bag.

There will be a big focus on using PSPs this half term. We will endeavour to take photos in school to share with you at home, like wise we would love to see photos and videos which can be shared in weekend news on a Monday.

With the new national curriculum in place we have a very exciting new topic in computing. The children will be learning to 'programme'. They will understand how to enter inputs, to gain appropriate outputs. We will be using programmes on Purple mash to help them create games such as 'Pop the bubble' and 'Blast off the rocket'.

In RE our focus is 'Community'. The children will develop an understanding of what makes a community and how communities can differ. We will be asking families to share information about their religious community.



This half term we are starting a topic on 'Ancient Egypt'. We will do some preparatory work on the lives, customs and beliefs of the ancient Egyptians prior to a trip to the Egyptian galleries at the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery. We will be attempting to read and write in hieroglyphics, building pyramids and learning how to make a mummy!

We are lucky this half term to have a football coach who will be coaching the children during their weekly PE spot as well as running a lunchtime club on the same day.

We will also be visiting the local Synagogue as part of our RE learning. We have already learned about what happens in a Synagogue and are going to have a look round to see if we recognise the things we have learned about in school.

Home learning will be set on a Friday and will be expected back on Wednesday ready to hand in. There will be a home learning club during Tuesday lunchtime to complete any work. Please help your child by supporting them in completing their home learning and by reading with them. They will also have a PSP challenge set which will help link home and school learning opportunities.

Year 4B will be doing PE on a Wednesday, please send shorts or trousers, T-Shirt and trainers to stay in school this half term. This half term they will be doing football training.

They will be continuing swimming every Thursday, please continue to send their swimming costume and a towel in a labelled bag each week.

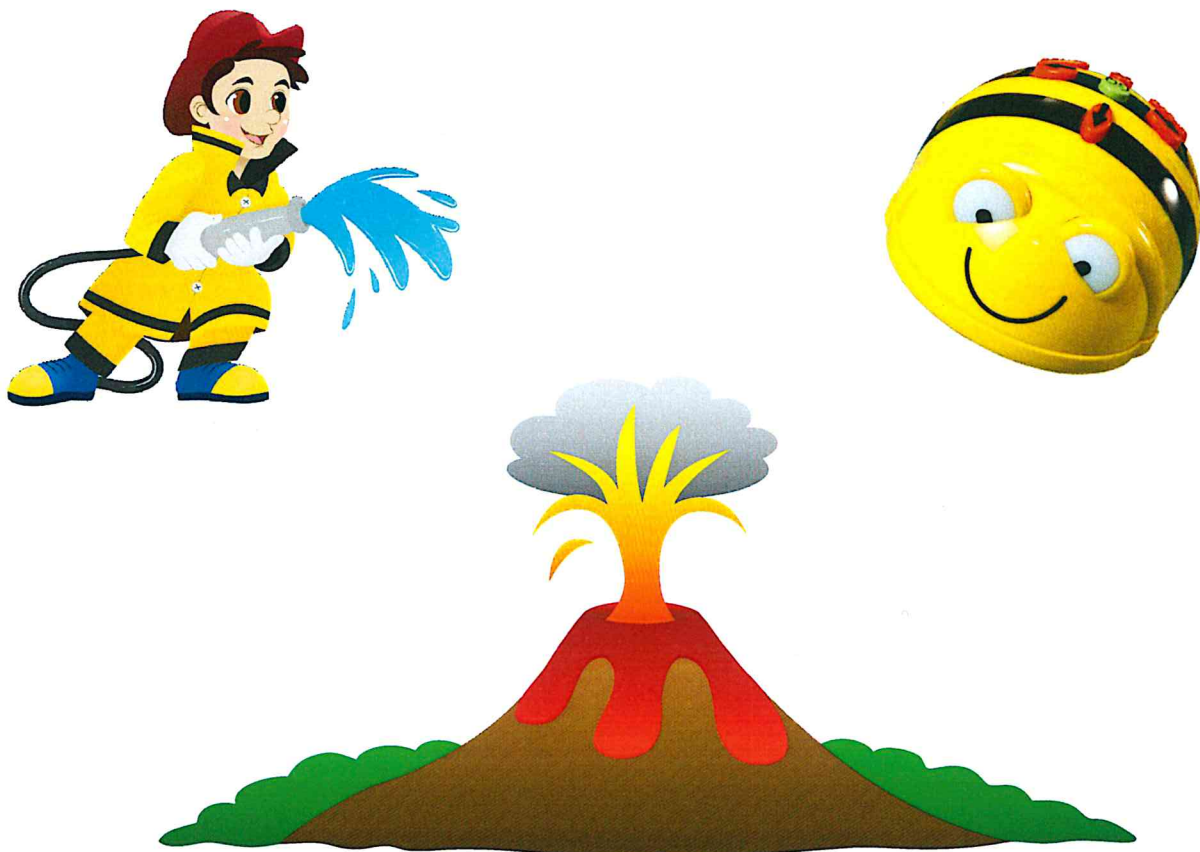


Our Learning Journey title this half term will be 'Volcanoes'. Our Science work will be 'explosive' as we create our own volcanoes. We will also investigate the effect of heat and water on different materials. Our art work will also have an explosive element as we discover and recreate explosions of colour in the style of Jackson Pollock with opportunities to create 3D pieces too. This explosive element will also mirror in our musical creations where we hope to use the Glockenspiel to create simple musical patterns to reflect volcanic movements. In history we will look at the famous volcano in Pompeii, learning about this historical event. We may also look at the impact of more recent natural disasters. In Geography we will begin to explore the globe and atlases, learning where the different countries we learn about are on the map. On a smaller scale we will begin to follow simple maps of the classroom, we may even find some treasure! In computing we will make our own maps and tracks that we can explore using the beebots; we will be programming them to follow instructions and work on 'debugging' too.

In PE we will begin to take part and follow rules for simple invasion games. In RE the topic is community; we will learn about different places of worship and think about our own communities. In PSHE we will be thinking about people who help us and learn some basic first aid skills with year 3.

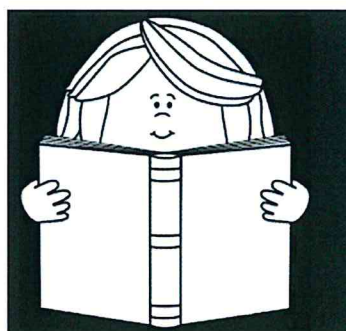
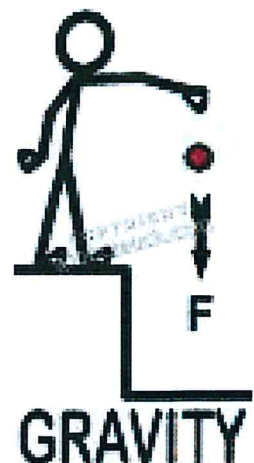
Using the PSP really helps to link home and school learning; please continue to complete activities set.

Don't forget: Monday; Gardening, Tuesday; PE and Thursday; Swimming.



Our Learning Journey for this half term is based around the Science topic of Forces. This will give us lots of opportunities for hands-on activities as we investigate the importance of different forces such as push, pull, gravity, air resistance, water resistance and friction. We shall have one week when we focus on cooking, particularly thinking about how we can prepare nutritious and healthy food. As part of our PSHE programme we are joining with Y6 to learn about 'Growing Up'. This will enable our pupils to start their transition into adulthood with good information, and the confidence and knowledge to understand what is happening to them. In PE pupils will be learning lots of new footballing skills thanks to expert coaches who will be leading sessions for us. The theme we shall be studying in RE is Community. Please do continue to support your child with their Home Learning, especially with their reading and spellings.

Last term Y5 thoroughly enjoyed meeting pupils from Bellfield Primary School and we look forward to deepening and developing those links as we find ways of bringing the pupils together to work and to get to know each other better.



Welcome back! We hope that you had a lovely Christmas holidays. The Year 6 members of staff for this year are Mrs Straw, Louise and Michael.

The children will be starting a new Learning Journey about the Mayans. They will look at when and where in the world the Mayans lived and will begin to understand what geographical features human settlements are likely to have. The children will also begin to understand how modern day products such as drinking chocolate were discovered thousands of years ago.

English will link with our Learning Journey as the children will look at myths from the Mayans and Aztecs. They will deconstruct myths to understand what features they have and write and publish their own.

In Maths we will be learning completing a lot of work on fractions especially understanding the value of each fraction and finding fractions of a quantity. The children will also be practising their time skills. By the end of the learning it is hoped that all children will be able to read the time to the nearest minute on an analogue and digital clock. Please support them with this at home. They will continue with their times table clubs every Friday.

In PE the children will be practising their football skills in sessions taught by football coaches. PE will happen every Wednesday. Swimming continues to be on a Thursday and dance on a Friday.

The children will continue to be given a their homelearning each week on a Friday and it is expected in the following Wednesday or before. The children will also have spellings every Friday and will be tested the following week. Please encourage your child to read every day at home, whether with you or silently reading to themselves. The Year 6 staff will be checking their reading journals daily.

If you would like to support your child's learning further at home please use the following websites:

www.mathletics.co.uk

