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**Computing**

In Computing, the children will continue to learn about the importance of keeping safe on the Internet. They will learn how to research effectively and learn how to seek out reliable sources. Children will also develop their coding skills using Purple Mash.

**Art & Design Technology**

In Art, the children will be learning about Stone Age paintings and will look at the Lascaux Cave Paintings that provide historical evidence. They will create a background using a wash, use marks and lines to show texture in their art. In DT, we will explore how food ingredients come together and the effect that they have on each other while preparing Stone Age bakery. We will use appropriate equipment to measure ingredients accurately and effectively.

**Visits, visitors & special events**

The children will be going on a local walk to explore their hometown of Ellesmere Port. Here they will begin to make comparisons with other locations in the UK, linked to what they have been learning in Geography. Also this term, we are hoping to facilitate a trip to the Liverpool Museum for a hands-on experience of life in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age to bring our history learning to life.

**Music**

In Music, the children will learn about the Japanese festival of Hanami and write their own Haiku about nature before adding appropriate musical sounds and performing as a group. Later in the term they will learn about the origin of rock and roll, learn how to play the Hand Jive and Rock Around the Clock before performing as a class.

Curriculum Newsletter

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Autumn 2024

The Acorns Primary & Nursery School

**Maths**

This term, the children have begun to secure their knowledge of place value. They have learnt to recognise the value of thousands, hundreds, tens and ones in a 4-digit number, and will be able to identify different ways to represent these. The children will learn to add 10, 100 and 1000 more or less than a given number using mental strategies, as well as learning to count on and back in steps of 25. Once these skills are secure, the children will move on to adding and subtracting in their heads before progressing to using formal written methods. Finally, they will revisit the 3, 4 and 8 times tables, and begin to learn the 6, 7, 9, 11 and 12 times tables which they will all need to practise regularly at home.

**Science**

Each term the children will investigate and observe the changes of our school’s natural environment. Additionally, during the first half term, the children will be learning about forces. Scientific enquiry will be a focus skill so that children develop an inquisitive mind and begin to ask questions of their own. Following this, they will study solids, liquids and gases when they learn about states of matter. This will also be underpinned by practical, investigative work which will allow children to draw their own scientific conclusions.

**History & Geography (Humanities)**

In History, we will be learning about the changes in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age. The children will explore a range of different artefacts and discuss how these changed over time. They will also learn about the Stone Age site of Skara Brae and conduct research to find out why this place was so important. In Geography, the children will develop their map skills to help them identify villages, towns and cities, including their own town of Ellesmere Port and understand that they live within the county of Cheshire. They will be learning about the features of all three settlements and identifying why people would want to live in a particular place.

**English**

During the Autumn Term, we will be studying ‘Counting on Katherine’, a beautifully illustrated text focusing on the accomplishments of Katherine Johnson, a mathematical genius who calculated the flight path for the first moon landing . The children will write setting descriptions and information texts relating to her achievements before writing a fact file about her life. Later in the term we will study ‘Leon and the Place Between’ a story about magic. We will continue to work on the children’s application of phonics, spelling, handwriting and reading. We welcome support from home to encourage as much reading as possible.

**Physical Education**

This term, the children will be developing their attack and defence skills in basketball and hockey. In basketball, we will learn to throw and catch the ball and dribble. In hockey, the children will practise dribbling and push passes while developing various tactics.

**Religious Education**

This term, we will be studying the Hindu festival of Diwali. The children will learn about the reason the festival is held and its importance to Hindus. They will also be looking at why the Bible is important to Christians.

**French**

In French, we are learning to greet others and ask simple questions. We will be learning how to name and describe people, places, objects or animals. We will be learning how to respond using short phrases and begin to use simple sentences in conversations.

**Personal, Social, Citizenship & Health Education**

This term, the children will be focussing on different ways to pay for things, how to track money and consider the influences behind a person’s decision about whether to save or spend. They will also learn what constitutes positive, healthy relationships and know where to seek support if necessary.