

Courtney Primary Topic Sheet – Toy Story!
Year 2 Term 4 2017-18 Teacher: Miss Elmore

English

This term we will be reading an AMAZING book called “The day the crayons quit” and its sequel – if you haven’t seen them yet I really recommend them. They are written from the perspective of crayons! We will use this as inspiration for our own persuasive letters and other extended writing opportunities.

We will be learning how to use apostrophes, both for contractions and for possession.

We will continue our focus on spelling using our phonetic knowledge, spelling rules and mastering those tricky common exception words.

Maths

In Maths we have a busy term ahead looking at fractions and measurement.

The children will consolidate their understanding of fractions being equal parts of a whole. This will then allow them to extend what they know about halves, quarters and thirds – which we will apply to finding a fraction of a quantity e.g. $\frac{1}{4}$ of 8.

When measuring we will think about length, height, mass and volume. Any practical experience of this at home would really benefit the children.

Science

This term our Science topic is ‘Plants’ where we will be learning about all things green and groovy!

We will be looking at the life cycle of plants and the way a seed grows. This will include thinking about all the things plants need to grow and making links to our previous work on Animals & Humans.

The school’s grounds will become the focus for some of our lessons as we explore different ways seeds may be able to travel around. The children will also get their “green fingers” on as they help Mrs Hodds in the Courtney allotment with digging and planting!

Art/DT

As we ran out of time for it last term, in DT we will be doing a cookery unit with cross curricular links to our PSHE work. We will be learning all about where food comes from, and designing and making our own healthy meals – some yummy pizzas!

The children will experiment with a wide variety of media in order to create some seasonal art work!

Topic

Our topic this term is ‘Toy Story’ and we will be exploring it with learning across the curriculum. Not only does it give us a chance to explore the history of toys, it also provides lots of opportunities for us to get really creative (and of course, lots of playing!)

History

Our history lessons will focus on the timeline of toys, dating from present day all the way back to the Victorian era. We will get hands on with some artefacts and will be asking lots of questions to help us get a better picture of how children’s lives have changed.

We will be encouraging the children to research modern day toys from your childhood too – please tell them as much as possible 😊

Computing

In computing this term we will be focusing on programming. Year 1 will be using Beebots and moving them round the school, while Year 2 will be manoeuvring some Probots!

RE

In RE we will be deepening our understanding of Christianity by exploring sacred places. We will hopefully squeeze in a church visit too! This will allow us to compare sacred places of different faiths.

PSHE

In PSHE we will be making links to our DT work on how to stay healthy and safe. This will include work on road safety, medicines and what constitutes a healthy lifestyle.

Our Courtney Crown Value this term is “We take responsibility for ourselves and do the right thing even if it’s difficult.” Our crown value animal is the spider, which is to do with making links.

PE

As a school we follow the “Real PE” scheme of work which focuses on building up core skills and applying them in games. On Thursdays the children will have a PE session with Mr Smith, our sports coach. On Monday the children will be doing PE with me.

If your child has long hair please make sure it is tied up on these days, and that they can take out their earrings. All children should have suitable PE kit kept at school.

Dear Parents,

Welcome back – I can't believe we're over half way through the year! Although this is a short term we will be cramming as much in as possible so I look forward to sharing the children's fabulous work with you.

As mentioned previously, to support your child please encourage them to:

- read every day and remember to bring their reading book and reading diary to school every day – we've had our first 150 certificate so it would be FAB to get everybody moving up the reading ladder 😊 The children are so proud of themselves when they go up
- learn their multiplication tables as part of our Multiplication Masters programme – the children are continuing to FLY up the ladder so thank you for all of your work at home so far.
- take opportunities to try out their maths and English as much as possible – using money, writing letters etc
- do their homework and hand it in on time! Homework will be given every Friday to be completed by the following Wednesday.

Lastly, as mentioned on the topic map we will be doing lots of work on toys over time and how they've changed. This will include looking at modern day toys that both parents and grandparents have played with (I'll be raiding my Polly Pocket collection at my parents' house!). If you have any experiences/stories you'd be willing to share it would really help bring the topic to life.

Best wishes,

Miss Elmore