Year 3/4 Autumn 1: Potions!

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to a new school year! We hope you've all had a lovely summer holiday and are rested, recharged and ready to go again!

Our first theme for this year is 'Potions': in this theme we will looking at *George's Marvellous Medicine*, using it as an inspiration to learn about states of matter in Science and the illustrations of Quentin Blake in Art.

We hope your child enjoys their first half term in Year 3/4 and have attached the following information so you can discuss the learning with your children.

Kind Regards,

The Year 3/4 team

Theme

Our theme for the first half term is Potions and we will be covering the following:

English

We will be reading George's Marvellous Medicine and we will be developing our descriptive writing as we write character descriptions and create our own 'marvellous medicines', writing a recipe to accompany these.

Science

-Pupils will take part in a range of science experiments that develop their understanding of scientific enquiry and carrying out an investigation
-Pupils will compare and group materials together, according to whether they are solids, liquids or gases
-Pupils will observe that some materials change state when they are heated or cooled, and measure or research the temperature at which that happens in degrees Celsius

Art

-Pupils will explore how to develop drawing skills by looking at the human form (mixing/pouring) in different poses and draw shapes to show actions
Pupils will experiment with paint to look at tones and shade
-They will evaluate and analyse creative works of artist Quentin Blake and Tony Ross to influence their work.
- Pupils will use learnt drawing and painting techniques to show a character creating a magical potion.

History

-Pupils will look at significant individuals and their achievements in medicine through time. Place them on timeline and consider the concept of significance and what made them so.
- Pupils will create an information page about a significant figure such as Edward Jenner or Alexander Fleming and the impact their 'discovery' had on our health today.

Computing

-Select, use and combine a variety of software on a range of digital devices.
-Design and create a range of content that accomplish given goals.
-Use an iPad and green screen to project images from George's Marvellous Medicine as they perform a short scene in front of it.

All classes will also have RE, PE, PSHE, French, Spelling and Handwriting sessions.

PE Days:

Fox: Tuesday and Thursday
Otter: Tuesday and Friday
Deer: Wednesday and Friday
Badger: Wednesday and Thursday

Library Days: Tuesday for all classes.

Key vocabulary for the upcoming theme:

Illustrator, materials, solids, liquids, gases, change of state, substance, reversible/irreversible, medical, discovery, Maria Curie, Edward Jenner, X-rays, bones, Nobel prize, radium, radiation, radioactive, vaccines, inoculation, small pox, green screen, chromakey, Colour mixing, tone, texture, shadow, shape, light, dark, blending, bleeding, pitch., beat, rhythm, notation, rest, crotchet, quaver.

Year 3/4 Home Learning

Please ask your teacher if you need a new code for accessing Seesaw, or to be reminded of usernames and passwords for Times Table Rockstars or Spelling Shed!

Spelling

These will be sent home every **Monday** and tested the **following Monday.**

There will be between 6-8 words that follow the rule we are looking at in class.

Each week, the spelling words will also be assigned on Spelling Shed for children to practice at home.

Maths and English

Maths and English home learning will be set via Seesaw or in the children's homework books on alternate Fridays with the expectation that the task will be completed by the following week.

The tasks that are will be in line with what the children have been learning that week in school, or maybe recapping topics learnt earlier in the year.

Spelling Shed

Times Tables Rockstars

Regular practice will help your children become fluent Times Tables Rockstars. Times Tables are key for all year 3/4 students! See the back page of this leaflet for more!

At the end of year 4, all children in England now sit a Multiplication Tables Check (MTC). On Times Table Rockstars, the Soundcheck mode is an excellent way of practising for this assessment.

Reading

We love reading and expect the children to be enjoying a book at least 5 times a week at home. Please can **three** of these times be reading aloud to an adult.

We also recommend for you to read to your child to model excellent reading skills and to share audio books together as well. As children get more confident, they may want to read independently too. The most important thing is to talk about what has been read.

Please see below for a link to good questions to ask your child when reading together.

Early Morning Activities

Early morning activities begin at 8:40am. Please ensure you are here on time to take part!

Helping at Home

Practise:
Spelling tests will take place every Monday. Please support your child by discussing the current week's spelling rules with them and the spellings they are learning. Spelling Shed will have practice games for the weekly rules too.

Here is a list of the 100 words that children in England are expected to be able to spell by the end of year 3/4.
https://cdn.oxfordowl.co.uk/2019/08/29/13/54/08/76f1443d-9b6d-4030-be0d-25fcfef01438/SpellingWordList_Y3-4.pdf

Please aim for at least 3 sessions on TTRS per week. Please speak to your child's class teacher if your child has forgotten their logon details.

Talk and explore (Here are some example questions to generate discussion about what we will be doing at school. Some of these will not be covered at the beginning of the term):

- How does a solid change to a liquid? How does a liquid change to a gas?
- Which changes are reversible and which aren't?
- Why did Marie Curie win two Nobel prizes?
- Why do we remember Edward Jenner?
- Which Quentin Blake illustrations do you like best? Why? How could we recreate them?
- What special effects can you see on TV/in films?

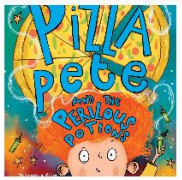
Watch and Play
States of Matter
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vNvElea-124

Stop Motion Animations at home
https://www.bfi.org.uk/join-filmmaking-activities-children-young-people/learn-how-animate-home

Read
Please continue to read with your child at home and discuss the characters and the themes in the stories. Please see a collection of useful questions to ask your children when reading via the link below:

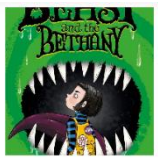
https://www.literacyshedblog.com/uploads/1/2/5/7/12572836/ks2_reading_vipers.pdf

Some Recommended Reads:



Pizza Pete and the Perilous Potions

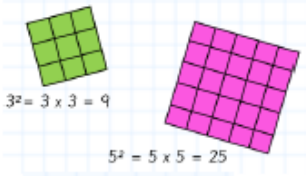
Beauty and the Bin

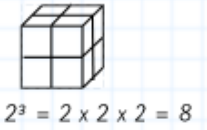


The Beast and the Bethany

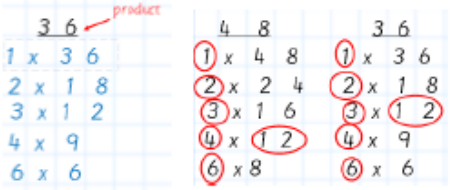
Why are times tables useful?

Square and cube numbers

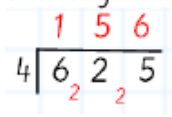




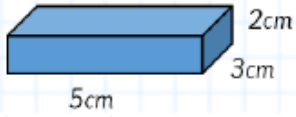
Factors and common factors



Short and long division

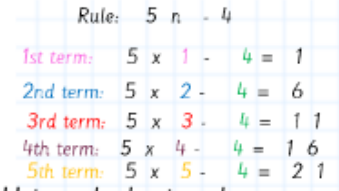


Calculating volume

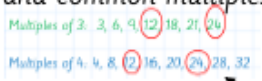


Volume = 5 x 3 x 2

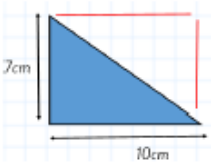
Using algebraic rules

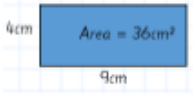


Multiples and common multiples

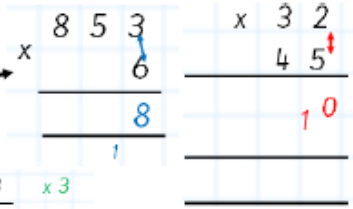


Area of rectangles, triangles and parallelograms

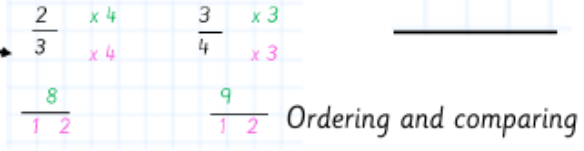




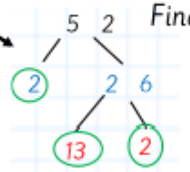
Short and long multiplication



Ordering and comparing fractions

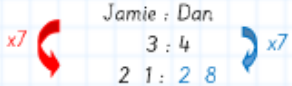


Finding prime factors

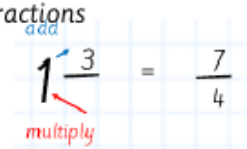


Calculating ratio

A prize is shared in a ratio of 3 : 4 between Jamie and Dan. If Jamie gets £21, how much will Dan get?



Converting between mixed and improper fractions

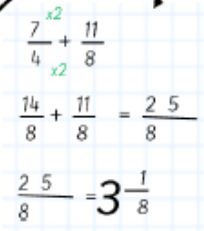


Identifying prime and composite numbers

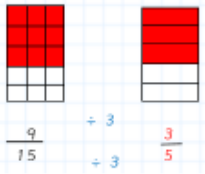
A prime number is a whole number greater than 1 with no divisors except 1 and itself.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20

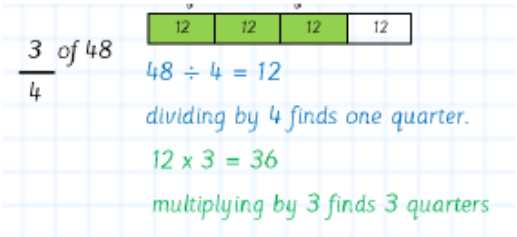
Adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing fractions



Simplifying fractions



Finding a fraction or percentage of a number



Further Enrichment Ideas

Year 3/4 Autumn 1 – Potions

Ideas for Home Learning to Further Support Your Child

Music

Write and perform your own rap music with BBC Bitesize

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zdctxbk

Computing

Learn more about computer aided visual effects by watching the link below:

https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/computing-ks1--ks2-creating-computer-generated-visual-effects/zv2mhbk

Art

Learn to draw like Quentin Blake:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g0zB2DI_hgw

Science – States of Matter

Can you investigate the different states of matter at home in the kitchen?

- Can you melt ice?
- Freeze water?
- Turn water into steam?

What do you notice at each step?

See https://www.giftofcuriosity.com/exploring-states-matter-water-ice-steam/ for more information.

Please be careful when working with hot kitchen equipment – always work with an adult!

Alternatively, can you create your own fog catcher?

https://www.sciencebuddies.org/stem-activities/fog-catcher