

Cotsford Primary School
Spring 1 - Home Learning - Year 4



Tremors

Subject/ area	Subject Summary
<i>English</i>	<p>In English this half term we began by exploring a video called The Cloudmaker. It was a story all about an old man who makes clouds and a little boy who wants to follow in his footsteps. Some of the children played hotseating games and other drama activities to get to know the story better. We also wrote a diary entry focusing on how the boy in the story felt when he was using the Cloudmaker.</p> <p>Then, we looked at examples of instructional texts and started thinking about what we needed to include in instructions of our own. To do this, the children highlighted the model text and labelled it with key features. We then revisited imperative verbs and maintaining accuracy when using different types of punctuation. After that, we designed our own weather machine inspired by the Cloudmaker, labelled it and then wrote set of instructions for how to use our machine. We continued learning the structure of this story in order to retell some of it and include inverted commas for direct speech. Some of us had a go at writing a conversation between the two characters.</p> <p>Then, we moved on to a new story called Lila and the Pirate. Some of the children rehearsed actions for this at home to learn the story. We also created a story map to show the events in the story. Then, we investigated key vocabulary in the story and talked about the meanings of new words. Some of us created warning posters and added descriptive language to show more of what they thought about the pirate's character. Next, we worked on picking out important features from the text such as time conjunctions, exciting vocabulary and how the main character's emotions are shown throughout. We completed an emotion graph to show this and continued to explore Lila's feelings during the story. Then, we wrote a short setting description to show how she felt at the moment she ran away from the pirate.</p> <p>Finally, we chose two or three elements each to change in our story. We then edited our story maps and wrote our new story. When they had finished their first piece, the children went back to their work and edited it to make important changes such as correct capital letters or punctuation.</p> <p>To finish their home learning this term, the children revisited coordinating conjunctions and looked at correcting errors in a piece of writing to improve their grammar skills.</p>
<i>PSHE/SMSC/RRSA</i>	<p>In Jigsaw this half term, we have been exploring Dreams and Goals. Firstly, we began the topic by reading the story 'Salt in His Shoes' by Roslyn and Deloris Jordan. The children learnt about how Michael Jordan achieved his dream of becoming a basketball player and the importance of resilience. Then, they shared some thoughts about the story and how it links to their own dreams.</p> <p>We also explored what advice we would give to somebody who was disappointed that their dream did not come true. Then, we shared our own dreams and goals for the future and how we plan to achieve them.</p>
<i>Maths</i>	<p>This half term, we started our Multiplication and Division topic. As part of the children's home learning they recapped multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100. We then moved on to multiplying by 1 and 0, then dividing by 1 and itself. We explored a range of different methods including pictorial and problem solving questions.</p> <p>We also worked on our knowledge of the 3, 6, 7 and 9 times tables.</p> <p>Then, we explored the 11 and 12 times tables and multiplying 3 numbers together. We also had lots of opportunities to solve problems and improve our reasoning skills.</p> <p>Some of the children also spent lots of time perfecting their times tables using Times Table Rock Stars and engaging in the battles set for them.</p>
<i>RE</i>	<p>We explored the question 'What do Christians believe about Jesus?' this half term. To begin this topic, the children gathered information that they already knew about Jesus as part of their home learning.</p>

	<p>Then, we explored the story of Jesus at 12 and children discussed at home what questions they would ask about the story.</p> <p>We created our own stained glass window design after thinking about what we know about Jesus. Finally, the children thought about the story of Jesus' Baptism and used artwork depicting the story to ask questions about why this was a turning point in Jesus' life and why people get baptised.</p>
<i>Art</i>	N/A
<i>D&T</i>	<p>Our topic this half term was Electrical Systems - Torch. As part of their home learning, the children researched different kinds of torches, how they are made and what type of electricity is needed to make them work. Then, they designed their own novelty torch. Some of the children even had a go at making their own working torches! After the making process, they completed an evaluation to state what had gone well and what could be improved next time.</p>
<i>History</i>	<p>This half term we enjoyed learning more about the Romans, this time focusing more on Life in Roman Britain. We completed a long timeline to plot when exactly the Romans ruled in Britain and then began to explore what life was like in Roman towns and cities around the UK. The children enjoyed carrying out research as part of their home learning and produced lots of exciting information texts, posters and artwork to compliment the topic.</p>
<i>Geography</i>	N/A
<i>Music</i>	<p>In Music, we have been exploring Grime music. We had a go at listening and appraising our focus track from home. Some of the children had a go at creating a piece of music in a similar style to the track <i>Stop!</i> which we have been exploring by using 2Beat on Purple Mash.</p> <p>Children had a go at learning a song called <i>Waddaly Atcha</i> where they had to follow actions provided by Mrs Sellers from Durham Music Service.</p> <p>Some children have also been making time to practise their own instruments at home.</p>
<i>Computing</i>	<p>In Computing the children learned about Internet Safety. During home learning we explored the different types of social media and the important questions we need to ask before using them. Some children created some fantastic posters instructing others how to stay safe when using these apps.</p> <p>We also explored the importance of privacy settings and how to keep ourselves safe online, particularly when creating an online profile. Some of us used the Friendbook app on Purple Mash to create an information text addressing these issues.</p> <p>Finally, we learned about cyberbullying and the negative effects it can have but also who to turn to if we experience it ourselves.</p>
<i>MFL</i>	<p>This half term, the children practised greetings they already knew and began to learn how to ask 'How are you?' / '¿Qué tal?' Some children practised their pronunciation of different responses and played games with a partner to help the phrases stick.</p> <p>We also made sure we listened to the alphabet song every lesson to refresh our knowledge of Spanish pronunciation.</p>
<i>Science</i>	<p>The children learned about Electricity this half term as part of their home learning. We explored the difference between a series and parallel circuit and looked at visual examples of both types of circuit. We also discussed what kinds of electricity there are, such as battery powered or mains powered appliances. Finally, the children looked at different ways that electricity can be transported, including solar power and hydropower.</p>
<i>PE</i>	<p>Some of the children joined in with Joe Wicks for PE with Joe this half term and enjoyed keeping fit every week. As part of our remote PE sessions we also completed a range of physical challenges which were home learning friendly.</p>