

Topic: What's in the news? **Focus Area:** Geography

Staff	Mrs Cross and Mrs Chapman
Numeracy	We have renewed our focus on tables this term, in particular the 2s 5s and 10s at the moment: later in the term we will be looking more at the 3 and 4 times tables. It is really helpful if children practise these tables at home as it improves their mental agility greatly. We will be working on addition and subtraction strategies, focussing on adding and subtracting multiples of 10 from 2, 3 and 4 digit numbers as well as adding and subtracting 9, 11, 19 and 29 from 2 and 3 digit numbers. We will also be learning about division, and revising that it is the inverse to multiplication, and will also look at finding fractions of shapes and numbers near to the end of term.
Literacy	Having just completed a very exciting unit of work on poetry, during which we used lots of drama and more 'talk for writing', we will be spending a few weeks looking at 'Stories in imaginary worlds'. This will further encourage children to use their imaginations to great effect – we have seen the excellent results of this in their writing from the poetry unit. Later on in the term we will be looking at persuasive texts with a particular focus on adverts. If you have any unwanted newspapers or magazines at home that you could donate, that would be most welcome!
Science	Our topic for science this term is 'Solids, liquids and gases'. We will be continuing to develop investigative skills that children can apply to other areas of the curriculum through designing and completing experiments.
Geography	We will be looking at 'What's in the news?', and finding out about what is happening in our local area. We would be grateful for any newspaper clippings that you think would be relevant to the children. It would be great if you could read 'First News' with your child – it is a weekly newspaper specifically designed for children that looks at current affairs in this country and events around the world. Copies can be found in bigger newsagents or at the library.
RE	We have started to look at Hinduism, and would be grateful for any offers of help or expertise. Among other things, we will be finding out about Hindu gods, holy books, forms of worship and festivals.
Art	Using flowers and plants as a stimulus, we will be focussing on observational drawing. We are hoping to produce some really beautiful work for display in our classroom and around the school. We will also be doing some collage work as part of our Lent project, so again, any spare magazines or newspapers would be very welcome.
PE	<u>Please ensure your child has their PE kit in school everyday.</u> We will be developing our dance skills this term, and will be learning some Indian dances.
Music	We will be continuing to develop our singing voices, and will be learning to sing confidently in harmony as well as in unison.
ICT	We will be learning to use software to develop images, and will then be using those images to create repeating patterns. Some of this work will link with mathematical objectives on shape and space.
Others, inc proposed class visits	We have booked a great looking trip to the Look Out Centre in Bracknell, on the 23 rd March. Work we will be doing will directly support what we have been studying in science, and will also allow children to learn and practise mapping skills for geography.

Homework: Homework will be handed out and collected in on a Monday. Please use the feedback sheets and let me know if you find them useful or not.

Useful Websites:

<http://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/backpack-trail-poster.pdf>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks2bitesize/science/materials.shtml>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/weather/multimedia/games/>

Other: We're always happy to speak to you about any questions you may have – just ask!