

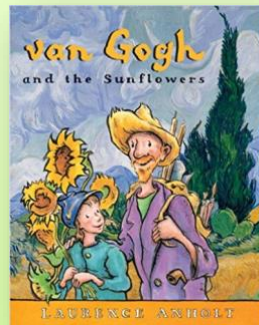


# What is my child learning next half term?

## Literacy

The children will be reading 'Van Gogh and the Sunflowers' by Laurence Anholt. It tells the story of a young boy, Camille, and his encounter with the artist, Vincent Van Gogh. His extraordinary paintings of 'Sunflowers' and the 'Starry Night' entrance Camille, but not everyone in the town appreciates his genius. Here is a classic tale about acceptance of those who are different.

The children will be using this story as a focus for diary writing. We will also use Van Gogh's paintings as a writing focus.



## Science



Our Science topic is 'Light and Shadow'. The children will be introduced to vocabulary such as, 'opaque' (not see through) and 'translucent' (see through) and will see how it refers to light. They will investigate shadows and discover how a shadow can change depending on the position of the light source.

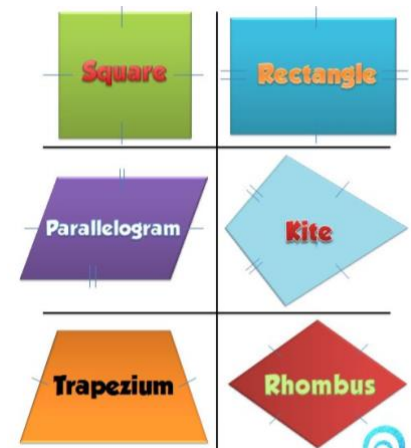
## Maths

Number and fluency with times tables and the four operations are always the main focus in Years 3 and 4 (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division).

Mr Wood's group will continue to work on place value and number bonds e.g.  $7+3 = 10$  and  $17+3 = 20$ . They will also be working on written methods such as addition and subtraction in an attempt to speed up their rapid recall. The focus times tables will be: X2, X5 and X10.

Mrs Wayper's group will continue to work on column addition and subtraction (visit the homework section of the school website). The children will be introduced to long multiplication. Long multiplication is a written method of multiplying numbers (usually a two or three-digit number by another large number). The focus times tables will be: x2,x3, x5, x6, x8 and x10.

Miss Forth's group will explore the bridging strategy e.g.  $124 + 58 = 182$  is the same as  $124 + 50 = 174 + 6 = 180 + 2 = 182$ . They will be looking at rounding numbers to the nearest 10s and 100s. They will also begin to explore the quadrilateral family of shapes, see image.



## Vincent Van Gogh

In Art, we will be looking at the work of Vincent Van Gogh. Each week, we will discover more about this troubled artist and our art work will build up to a 'Sunflower' masterpiece of our own. Keep a look out for this display in our classrooms.

## PSHE



In PSHE, our topic next half term is 'Keeping safe and Managing Risks'. The children will be learning about how to stay safe in their computer gaming habits and how to stay safe near roads, railways, building sites and around fireworks. Finally, they will learn how they can help someone in an emergency, for example making a 999 call.

## Spanish

Next half term, the children will be learning a few classroom instructions (Levántense - stand up, Siéntense – Sit down, Miren – Look, Escuchen – Listen, Silencio – Silence).

They will also be learning about colours (Amarillo – Yellow, Azul – Blue, Rojo – Red, Morado – Purple, Verde – Green, Naranja – Orange, Rosa – Pink, Marrón – Brown, Gris – Gray, Negro – Black, Blanco – White). They will also learn the words for dark and light (Oscuro and claro.)

Finally, they will be learning and preparing our now traditional Spanish song for the Christmas service.

## RE and Collective Worship

In RE next half term, we will be considering the question, "What is it like to follow God?". We will be learning and reflecting on the story of Noah in the Old Testament, thinking particularly about the promises God made to Noah and reflecting on promises we make today.

In Collective Worship, we will be continuing to reflect on the story of the Bible using the artwork in the school hall. We will also be thinking about the Christmas story and how the story of Christmas is good news for the world.

## ICT

During next half term, we will be focusing on developing our typing skills and using the keyboard. We will use the website 'www.typing.com' to learn the basics of touch typing to improve accuracy and speed. The pupils will compete with each other to increase their speed using the online typing game at [www.nitrotype.com](http://www.nitrotype.com).

*Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter. We hope you will find the information helpful.*

*If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher.*

*If you have any comments or suggestions for future newsletters, please let me know.*

*Thanks again,  
Miss Jemma Lane*