


Subject	What is my child learning about at school?
English	<p>Fiction: Trust me, Jackie's Beanstalk Stinks! Your child is learning to retell the story <i>Trust Me, Jackie's Beanstalk Stinks</i>. This is an adaptation of the traditional fairy tale told from the perspective of The Giant – who is a lot gentler than you would at first imagine! They will learn to retell the story through an array of drama activities that will ultimately lead to the children innovating their own version of the story and writing it. This is supported with a daily spelling and grammar focus – this term we will be consolidating their use of direct speech; focusing on compound sentences using 'for'; and considering the impact long and short sentences have on the reader.</p> <p>Non-fiction This half term we will be writing a letter to the Giant to persuade them to release Jackie.</p>
	<p>You can support your child by encouraging them to write to a pen pal or to a family member. Children love creating their own books, encourage your child to become an author. You could also suggest that they keep a diary of their thoughts and reflections.</p>
	<p>Nelson Handwriting Your child is continuing to write with their 'Perfect Pencil Grip' and 'Posture for Writing'. All Year 3 children have been practising their joined up Nelson handwriting for a full year and have made great progress.</p>  <p>You can support your child by ensuring that they sit properly on their chair with their feet on the floor, facing the table with a pencil in their writing hand and their other hand on their work.</p> <p>Please ensure that your child completes their home learning in joined up writing and with a sharp pencil.</p>
Reading	<p>Sounds-Write (Phonics) We will be consolidating Year 2 objectives as well as embedding higher level vocabulary with these sounds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Splitting polysyllabic words into their syllables (e.g. ma/gi/cal) • Reading polysyllabic words with fluency and applying them in writing. • Writing words with the suffix -ing, -ed. <p>Children will also be using their sounds skills in daily reading lessons where will discuss the text to aid comprehension.</p>
	<p>Please support by correcting spellings whilst you child is doing their Home Learning. At Floreat, we are direct when giving feedback e.g. a child spells the word 'accident' with an a > accidAnt, we say "In this word the sound is represented with an 'e'".</p>
Mathematics	<p>Maths No Problem At the start of this half term, your child is exploring the concept of subtraction with renaming (subtracting over or under a 10. For example: $53\text{4} - 1\text{7}$). They are continuing to develop their skills and methods so that they can choose the most efficient way of calculating an answer. Pupils will continue to independently solve every day mathematical problems e.g. There are 305 children in a PE hall, 69 of them want to play basketball. How many children do not want to play basketball? Once the children have a secure understanding of subtraction, they will then move onto multiplication and division. 'Prove it' will be commonplace in maths lessons this year. 'How do you know?', 'Explain...', 'Tell me more...' and 'What if...?' will all be used to help deepen our understanding of mathematical concepts. We will be encouraging your child to explain in multiple ways, with a large focus on purposeful talk within our maths lessons.</p>
	<p>You can support by practising number bond fluency and drawing children's attention to making number bonds within numbers to support addition. (For example: $4\text{4} + 6$) Please also practise the 2, 3, 5 and 10 times tables at home starting from anywhere in the middle, not just 0! Please also encourage your child to tell the time throughout the day (using both analogue and digital).</p>

Knowledge	<p>Science – We will be learning about the water cycle. We will explore states of matter where children will study the differences between solids, liquids and gases. We will also explore the 4 processes of the water cycle (evaporation, condensation, precipitation and runoff) and identify the different types of clouds.</p> <p>History – This half term, we will be continue learning about the Ancient Greeks. We will be studying the great thinkers of Ancient Greece, Plato, Aristotle and Socrates, and looking at the rise of Alexander the Great!</p> <p>Geography – We will be studying different settlements. We will be looking at rural, suburban and urban areas and discussing advantages and disadvantages of these settlements. We will also be looking at different populations and why green belts are so important!</p>
	<p>You could support at home by asking your children about their learning in these areas. Any additional learning from books or the internet in any of these areas would support the learning in the classroom.</p>
Character	<p>Your child is learning about Empathy, Perspective and Humour. Whilst looking at these virtues we will explore real life contexts that the children might find themselves in and how we could approach these situations. These virtues will be embedded through discussion and stories.</p>
	<p>Please encourage your child to consider different perspectives at home. When reading together ask your child how different characters might be feeling. This can also be embedded when having a discussion about the day. Questions such as 'Why do you think child A did that?' 'How do you think they felt at that moment?' 'Do you agree/disagree?' 'How would you have handled that situation?'</p>
Art	<p>This term, we will be studying landscape paintings. We will be furthering our knowledge on symmetry and form, as well as understanding the effects of texture. Children will be experimenting with these techniques and also studying a variety of landscape paintings.</p>
	<p>You could support at home by asking your children about their learning. You could also look and discuss different landscape paintings and if possible visit the national gallery (it's free!)</p>
Music	<p>Your child is learning to play either the Violin or the Viola. As I am sure you are aware, the children are becoming more confident with holding their instruments and they are experimenting with the different chords.</p>
	<p>You can support your child by encouraging them to practice little and often. The music tutors recommend 10 minutes per day.</p>
P.E. and Dance	<p>Your child is developing their coordination and control through the development of ball skills. They are developing the skills to play in a team and to increase their hand eye co-ordination. This half term Year 2 children will study Tag Rugby and Strength and Conditioning.</p>
	<p>Please ensure your child brings their PE kit to school every Monday morning. Children should have trousers as part of their PE kit as we teach PE outside when possible.</p>