

Normanby Curriculum Newsletter – Spring 1

Memorable Experience – Festival Theatre or Globe Theatre

This term, pupils will deepen their understanding of drama and performance with a visit to either Chichester Festival Theatre or Shakespeare's Globe. This experience will help bring our English study of *Macbeth* to life, allowing children to see how live performance transforms words on the page into powerful theatre.

English – *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare

Our core text this half-term is William Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. Pupils will explore this timeless tragedy, focusing on its themes of ambition, power, and consequence. They will study the language of Shakespeare, learning how to interpret meaning and stage directions. Writing outcomes will include character analysis, scene re-writes in modern English, persuasive speeches, and performance scripts. Grammar work will reinforce varied sentence structures, modal verbs, and cohesion across longer pieces of writing.

Oracy – *Macbeth* Performance Share

Pupils will rehearse and perform selected scenes from *Macbeth*, developing confidence in voice, movement, and interpretation. This performance share will give them the chance to practise clarity, expression, and teamwork, while building an appreciation of Shakespeare as a writer meant to be performed.

Mathematics – Decimals and Percentages

This half-term we focus on decimals and percentages. Pupils will consolidate their understanding of place value in decimals, practise adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing with decimals, and explore their relationship with fractions. They will then learn to calculate percentages, finding percentages of amounts and applying this knowledge to problem-solving contexts such as discounts, measures, and statistics.

Science – Light and Shadows

In science, pupils will investigate how light travels, how shadows are formed, and how light is reflected and refracted. They will explore the properties of materials as they affect transparency, translucency, and opacity. Through practical investigations, children will test predictions, collect data, and evaluate their findings, building enquiry and scientific reasoning skills.

History – N/A

There is no discrete history unit this half-term, though historical links will be made through our study of Shakespeare and theatre.

Geography – Trade Links: North America as a Partner

In geography, we will explore global trade links, focusing on the UK's relationship with North America. Pupils will investigate the import and export of goods, studying how geography, climate, and resources shape trade. They will use maps, data, and case studies to understand the impact of trade on communities and economies, and reflect on the importance of global cooperation.

Design Technology – Prop and Set Design

In DT, pupils will design and create props and sets linked to our English and drama focus. They will learn how design choices—such as materials, scale, and construction—help to create atmosphere

and support storytelling. Pupils will plan, build, and evaluate their own creations, applying practical skills while thinking critically about design effectiveness.

Art – Working with Shape and Colour

Our art focus this half-term is exploring how artists use shape and colour to convey ideas. Pupils will study the work of Lubaina Himid, Claire Harrup, and Michelle Reader, each of whom brings a unique perspective to these themes. Pupils will experiment with bold shapes, layering, and colour contrasts to produce their own imaginative pieces.

Computing – Spreadsheets

In computing, pupils will use Microsoft Excel, Google Sheets, and Apple Numbers to explore spreadsheets. They will learn how to enter and manipulate data, use formulae, and present findings clearly through charts and graphs. This unit builds important skills for handling data and solving problems using digital tools.

Music – Enjoying Musical Styles

In music, pupils will continue to explore a wide range of musical styles. They will listen to contrasting genres, identifying key features and learning how to respond critically to music. Pupils will also perform pieces, developing their vocal and instrumental confidence while working collaboratively.

PSHE – Dreams and Goals

Through the Jigsaw unit *Dreams and Goals*, pupils will reflect on their aspirations and the steps needed to achieve them. They will explore themes of resilience, perseverance, and teamwork, setting personal and collective goals and learning strategies to overcome challenges.

RE – God is Holy and Loving? (God)

In RE, pupils will study Christian beliefs about God as holy and loving. They will explore biblical texts and reflect on how these qualities shape Christian worship, prayer, and community life. Discussions will encourage pupils to consider different perspectives and their own views on faith.

MFL – Eating Out

In Spanish, the topic is *Eating Out*. Pupils will learn vocabulary for food, drink, and restaurant settings. They will practise ordering meals, asking for prices, and role-playing real-life scenarios, building both confidence and practical communication skills.

PE – Swimming and Outdoor Adventurous Activities (OAA)

In PE, pupils will focus on swimming and outdoor adventurous activities. Swimming sessions will build stamina, technique, and water safety, while OAA will develop teamwork, problem-solving, and resilience through activities such as orienteering and team challenges.