

English

In English this term we will begin by reading the book 'Cosmic' by Frank Cottrell Boyce. Through this text we will study a range of reading, writing and spelling, punctuation and grammar tasks. Through engaging with the story, we will explore themes and issues in the book through a discussion, develop creative responses to the text through drama, compose poetry and write in role to explore and develop empathy for characters. We will supplement this text through looking at a number of non-fiction texts relating to our topic and studying film media.

After the half term break, we will be switching our focus to the wonderful novel 'The Garbage King' by Elizabeth Laird. We will look in depth at the characters in the book and the trials and tribulations they face.

October is Black History month and we will spend a few weeks looking at the story of rugby player James Peters and the prejudice he faced when lining up for his country!

RE

In RE we will begin the new school year by considering the question 'How do Christians believe that God speaks good news to people through the life of Jesus?'

Children will compare and contrast the good news in two stories studied with other Bible stories or teachings: 'Healing the Paralysed Man' and 'The Sermon on the Mount', and will consider how Christians might believe these two Bible stories raise important life questions.

PSHCE

In PSHCE this term, Mrs Mercer-Wilks will be delivering mindfulness through the PawsB curriculum. The aim of the project is to promote well-being and resilience in the children and develop thinking skills. There will be a parents' meeting to explain the programme in greater detail.

Enrichment Activities

This half-term we are looking forward to our trip to Jodrell Bank to enrich our Earth and Space topic. We will look at film media relating to Black History month and will be joining other schools at Chester Cathedral for 'Pilgrim Day'.

Science

In Science is our lead curriculum area for the first half of this term and we will be focusing on Earth and Space. Our visit to Jodrell Bank early in the term will allow us to formulate and find answers to the big questions regarding our Earth, sun and moon. We will investigate how the Earth and other planets move in relation to the sun, the movement of the moon in relation to the Earth and will consider the sun, Earth and moon as broadly spherical. After half term, we will move on to a new focus on 'Forces'.



Geography / History

After half term, the lead curriculum area will switch to geography and will focus on the continent of Africa. We will look at environmental locations in Africa, and key human and physical features. We will look at climate zones across the continent and study biomes, vegetation belts, rivers, mountains and how land is used in various places.

We will also look at a comparison between a key area in Africa and one here in the UK and how time zones change.

In history we will study the Ancient Benin civilisation based in Northern Africa.

Art / DT

We will develop our skills and techniques in art through completing pieces that complement our topics. In Earth and Space, we will look at the artwork of Van Gogh, particularly his painting 'Starry Night' and will use a range of techniques to create our own. When studying Africa we will discover the art of 'batik' and create our own bags using this technique. In DT we will design, make and evaluate a water filter.

French

We will begin with learning the vocabulary relating to school including subjects, likes and dislikes. We will then go on to look at where we live, buildings and places of interest.

Maths

We will be taking a mastery approach to teaching maths this year – spending larger amounts of time developing a deeper understanding of each unit in maths, rather than revisiting the same topics over several times each year.

This term, we will begin by looking in detail at number and place value before moving on to calculating. We will develop our understanding of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division through problem solving. We will also look at statistics towards the end of the term, investigating data, particularly in line graphs, and also at area and perimeter.

Maths lessons will combine different tasks: some will be aimed at developing skills in arithmetic, and others will develop reasoning and problem solving skills. Children will work through units, developing their understanding through using concrete materials, pictorial representations of these, and later through more abstract means. This will develop the deepening understanding of maths we are aiming for.

Computing

Our focus for the start of the year in computing will be creating eBooks combining video, text, pictures and audio. We will also look at sound recording. We will link both of these to our 'Footsteps through Africa' topic.

After half term, we will use the programme 'Scratch' to tell stories. We will use external triggers and infinite loops to control onscreen characters. Children love using Scratch and the programme is easy to download at home so that they can continue to practice their reasoning skills in their own time!

PE

In our PE lessons, we will be developing our agility, balance and co-ordination through practising gymnastics, both in pairs and individually.

Through cricket, we will develop our striking and fielding skills as well as developing aspects of teamwork and sportsmanship.

Music

We will be using our voices and percussion to listen, appraise and create rock songs. We will also learn a number of songs as we lead up to Christmas, singing solo, in rounds and in groups.