



Stone Age to Iron Age

Emerald Class Autumn Term 2017

Topic

Our topic this term is Stone Age to Iron Age. We will be exploring finding out about life in Stone Age Britain, and considering how historians can learn about prehistoric time periods, for example by looking at artefacts, artwork and buildings and monuments. We will learn about the innovations of the Bronze Age and Iron Age, and how these changed the way people live. To enhance our learning, we hope to organise a trip to a bronze age settlement at Flag Fen near Peterborough. More details about this will follow in due course.

English

In English we will read both fiction and non-fiction texts on the theme of The Stone Age, including 'Stone Age Boy' and 'How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth'. Children will have the opportunity to read, discuss and write across different genres including story, instruction, recount and letters.

Alongside this we teach phonics and spelling in daily sessions. This half term we have a particular focus on learning to write in different tenses, and conjugate verbs accordingly, including adding the 'ed' and 'ing' suffixes. Children read with an adult in a guided group at least once a week, in addition to engaging in reading activities across the curriculum. Those children who are reading Oxford Reading Scheme books may have these changed as often as they wish by putting them in the green basket by the door. In class discussions we encourage children to think about books at a greater depth and to make inferences and deductions from the text. It is vital your child reads with you regularly at home - a mixture of reading aloud, reading silently and being read to is ideal. Even for those children who are already confident readers, these skills are all very useful.

Science

In science this term we will be studying Forces, including magnetism. Children will work in practical ways to investigate how magnets behave, how gravity effects things around us, and the effects of friction. We will incorporate some of our learning about forces into a construction project later in the term.

Maths

This term we will be focusing to begin with on place value and the number system, including understanding the value of each digit in a three or four digit number. A really thorough knowledge of these concepts is invaluable as it underpins so much of our later learning of numerical operations. Later in the term we will go on to learn about addition and subtraction, multiplication and division using different methods, including the columnar method of addition and subtraction. Children will be encouraged to reason mathematically, and solve problems involving the maths they are learning.

RE

Our first RE unit this year is about Christianity, exploring the question 'Who was Jesus?'. As part of the topic we will explore the ideas different people have had about Jesus, and ask and answer questions. As the year progresses, we will explore Islam and Judaism in the other two terms.

PE

We are learning netball skills this term, as well as participating in outdoor and adventurous activities.

Art and Design

Children have started off the term by investigating and creating cave art, and will go on to explore other media linked to our history topic. They will have the chance to work with clay and natural resources, and will explore how prehistoric people may have made things for decoration or specific purposes.

Home Learning

Each week, the home learning and communication book will be sent home on a Friday. These tasks are meant to be open ended, so you can approach them in a way which suits your child - some children may need support with activities, while others may appreciate an extra challenge. Please make sure that it is returned by the following Wednesday, otherwise it is very difficult for us to look at the work before Friday. If there are any areas of learning that your child found difficult, please let us know about this as well.

We continue to encourage you to read as frequently as possible with your child; additionally learning the high frequency words for spelling aids their writing, and learning the times tables will have huge benefits for their progress in maths. Thank you for your ongoing support.