

## Autumn Term Overview

### Literacy

In term 1 we have linked in the topic of minibeasts and have studied the book of James and the Giant Peach. From which we have been creating: Diary entries as James describing a day in the life; an alternative adventure story with the same characters; a play script turning a section of the book into a drama performance; a newspaper report after the peach got stuck to the top of the Empire State building and also a review of the book as a whole.

In term 2 we will also base our learning around a story 'Kensuke's Kingdom' by Michael Morpurgo. We will be developing our creative writing, as well as making comparisons between Morpurgo and Roald Dahl. We will look at genre and theme and also debate the ethical decisions, that this book also touches upon, with regards to wildlife in the rainforest.

### Maths

In term 1 we have been consolidating our place value understanding ordering numbers and learning the value of each digit up to 3 decimal places. We have used this understanding along with some shortcuts to enhance our mental arithmetic e.g. learning our 4 times table we just need to know our 2s and double the answer and to divide by 8 we can just halve the answer three times. We have also developed our written method for all four operations as well as always incorporating written questions and problem solving and reasoning skills to challenge children who require it.

In term 2 we will be moving on to fractions decimals and percentages whilst continuing to develop the reasoning and logic that is required for Key Stage 2.

### Topic (History Geography, Art, DT and Music)

In term 1 we have been looking at minibeasts, going on a minibeast hunt and handling some exotic minibeasts for our WOW! Day. We have also created our own minibeasts with an adaptation for a particular environment changing its appearance. We have also been looking at the artwork/sculptures of Andy Goldsworthy and his ephemeral art using the environment. Designing and creating our own natural sculpture.

In term 2 we will continue to look at minibeasts creating our own 3D minibeast in DT using a variety of materials. As we move towards Christmas our topic lessons will be used for a variety of Christmas activities.

### Science

In term 1 we have looked at living things and their habitats but with a topic focus looking at the microhabitats of minibeasts, the life cycles of insects/plants and the metamorphosis that some animals go through. We have explored our school grounds looking for microhabitats and evidence of minibeasts.

In term 2 we will be investigating materials and their properties, investigating how materials change in different situations and how these changes can be both reversible and irreversible. To consolidate this in a practical activity we will be making bath bombs to demonstrate an irreversible change.

## Computing

Our focus for term 1 and two is that of E-Safety and using technology to communicate. Recognising the ever changing world of social media and the potential risks that this could pose. Being able to use the internet effectively and safely.

## P.E.

In term 1 we will be playing basketball, focusing on: Dribbling shooting passing and correct hand position holding the basketball including some small team games for the final 2 weeks.

In term 2 we will be playing football, using our new equipment from 'Premier League Primary Stars' we will be developing our football skills in preparation for some inter-school competitions that have been organised including an all-girls tournament.

## R.E.

We will be following the Understanding Christianity Units.

In term 1 we are looking at the story of Noah's Ark and concentrating on the covenant God made with Noah. We will learn what a covenant is and how Christians make promises.

In term 2 we will look at the Trinity and why it is important to Christian belief. We will link this to Christian Baptism.

## Homework

Currently, the only homework children have is spellings and reading, this is likely to be increased, in particular for year 6 in order to adequately prepare them for secondary school. If you feel (or has been discussed with myself) that your child has a weak area such as a times table or reading/spelling in general, then spending a few minutes in the day or in the car on the way to school practising these would be beneficial. If you feel you need a specific resource to help them improve I can happily source these for you.