

Year 3 Newsletter

Summer 2

Our topic/theme this half term is

OUR ISLANDS!

In this topic, we will be learning about the main features and cities in the UK, our weather, our coastline and our local areas.

Our Key Texts this half term are:

Finn MacCool and the Giants' Causeway

The Big Book of the UK

The Mousehole Cat

The Wreck of the Zanzibar

Our English learning this half term:

Reading:

In Guided Reading this half term, we will be focusing on the following objectives:

- Listen to and discuss a wide range of books, including fairy stories, myths and legends, and poetry.
- Draw inferences, such as inferring character's feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justifying inferences with evidence.
- Predict what might happen from details stated.
- Identify themes in books
- Read aloud poems
- Discuss words that capture the reader's interests and imagination.
- Retrieve and record information from non-fiction
- Ask questions to improve understanding of a text.

Writing:

In our writing, we will be developing the following writing skills:

- Plan writing by discussing and recording ideas within a given structure.
- Draft and write in narratives, creating settings, characters and plots.
- Proof-read for spelling errors and for punctuation.
- Read work aloud, to a group or the whole class, using appropriate intonation and controlling the tone and volume so that the meaning is clear.

We will be writing our own myths and legends, focusing on the following skills:

- Use conjunctions to link sentences and ideas.
- Include accurately punctuated speech.
- Include a range of descriptive devices.
- Vary the openings to our sentences.

In grammar, we will explore the following areas: expanded noun phrases, fronted adverbials (time and place), apostrophes for omission and possession.

Our Maths learning this half term:

This half term, we will be focusing on the following areas:

Measure: Time

Tell and write the time from an analogue clock, including using Roman numerals from I to XII, and 12-hour and 24-hour clocks.

Estimate and read time with increasing accuracy to the nearest minute; record and compare time in terms of seconds, minutes, hours and o'clock; use vocabulary such as a.m./p.m., morning, afternoon, noon and midnight.

Know the number of seconds in a minute and the number of days in each month, year and leap year.

Compare durations of events, for example to calculate the time taken by particular events or tasks.

Geometry: Properties of Shape

Draw 2-D shapes and make 3-D shapes using modelling materials; recognise 3-D shapes in different orientations; and describe them.

Recognise that angles are a property of shape or a description of a turn.

Identify right angles, recognise that two right angles make a half-turn, three make three quarters of a turn and four a complete turn; identify whether angles are greater than or less than a right angle.

Identify horizontal and vertical lines and pairs of perpendicular and parallel lines.

We will continue to develop our counting and mental maths skills throughout our maths units, as well as revisiting any previous misconceptions.

Our Science and Computing learning this half term:

Science

Our unit of science this half term is focused on light. We will be covering the following knowledge areas:

- I can recognise that they need light in order to see things and that dark is the absence of light
- I can notice that light is reflected from surfaces
- I can recognise that light from the sun can be dangerous and that there are ways to protect their eyes.
- I can recognise that shadows are formed when the light from a light source is blocked by a solid object
- I can find patterns in the way that the size of shadows change.

We will be developing the following enquiry skills:

- Make systematic observations. Make decisions about what observations to make, how long to make them for and the type of equipment needed
- Group, sort and classify using criteria and simple keys
- Notice natural patterns and decide what data to collect to identify them
- Draw simple conclusions (identifying differences, similarities and changes) and use simple scientific language
- With support, identify new questions arising from data

Computing

Our unit of computing this half term is focused on programming.

- I know what debugging means
- I can spot when a program goes wrong.
- I can explain why programs need to be tested and debugged.
- I can explain why errors occur with my program.
- I can explain errors with my program.
- I can tell when my algorithm has worked or not.

Our Humanities learning this half term:

Geography:

Our geography focus this half term will be learning about the UK, naming some major urban areas and use atlases to identify where they live and nearby counties.

We will be covering the following areas:

- Locate and describe some human and physical features of the UK, explaining how some regions are different from others.
- Identify distinct characteristics of UK urban areas and how these have changed over time.
- Use four-figure grid references and direction instructions on a map.
- Use digital maps, including the zoom function, to identify places in the UK.
- Carry out fieldwork in the local area, using appropriate techniques such as notes and photos.

RE:

In RE, we will continue to explore different religious texts and identify similarities and differences between them.

Spanish:

In Spanish this half term, we will be exploring Spanish culture and festivities and exploring differences between celebrations in different parts of the country.

Our Creative Arts learning this half term:

Art: We will be focusing on creating landscapes using different techniques.

We will develop the following skills:

- Consider our use of light and colour.
- Know how and when to use different types of brushes.
- Demonstrate increasing control with the type of marks made and experiment with different effects (eg blocking colour, washes etc).
- Improve our sketching skills, using sketching and shading for a range of different purposes.
- Create textures and patterns with a wide range of drawing and printing implements.

Music:

Composing

- Compose harmony with score and recording themes for media.
- Songwriting skills and performing songs to peers.

Our PE and PSHE learning this half term:

PE:

Our PE units this half term are Athletics and Rounders

Athletics

To develop the push and pull technique, a variety of jumping actions linked to the long jump and triple jump and develop running speeds to be used within a competitive environment on Sports Day.

Rounders

Introduce a new activity to the children which involves batting and fielding. Learn the basic rules and how to play the game by looking at bowling (underarm flat bowl) and fielding (overarm/underarm throw)

PSHE:

Our unit this half term is 'Managing Change'

- Identify changes that they and other children may experience in their lives.
- Name emotions that may be involved in loss and change situations, and have some strategies for coping with them.
- Know what helps or hinders when they are experiencing difficult emotions.
- Understand how someone who experiences bereavement might feel.
- Know who they can talk to if they are experiencing difficult emotions, and how to ask for help.
- Plan to make a chosen change happen.

Key Vocabulary

Key Vocabulary for this half term:

Maths: Morning, afternoon, night, digital, analogue, clock, hour, hands, minute, seconds, quarter to, quarter past, half past, o' clock, years, fortnight, century, calendar, earliest, latest, shape, edges, faces, polygon, horizontal, diagonal, half turn, diagram, acute angle, obtuse angle, right angle, curved, diagram, sorting, pattern, vertical, symmetry, greater than, smaller than, quadrilateral, parallel, perpendicular, prism,

English: Generalisers, adverbials, expanded noun phrase, paragraphs, creatures, hero, legend, myth, imitation, innovation, characters, settings, personification, metaphors, similes, dramatic speech, description, mythical, hybrid, mountain, fairy, ancestor.

Science: Light, shadow, block, solid, artificial, torch, candle, surface, dark, natural, bulb, source, opaque, transparent, translucent, reflect, mirror, travels, reflect, reflection, periscope

Geography: Weather, erosion, coastal, mountain, continent, country, world, plan, beach, bridge, environment, seasons, island, cliff, lake, soil, city, town, village, school, road, cave, mountain range, forest