

Class: Elm

Theme: Castles

English

During English we will experience a range of fiction, non-fiction and poetry texts. We have started off the year by looking at the book 'George and the dragon' by Chris Wormell and we will be writing our own stories in the same style. We will be learning about information pages and instructions as we study non-fiction texts linked to our topic. We will look at stories set in familiar settings and adventures as part of our fiction work. Children will have the opportunity to write their own stories based upon ideas that we have studied in class. We will also be studying a variety of poetry. Spellings will be taught throughout English sessions as well as in separate daily sessions. We will be revising phase 5 graphemes and learning different strategies for learning common exception words. During the term, children will take part in guided reading sessions and gain confidence in choosing what we want to read from a selection of books. A special emphasis will be given to handwriting, focussing on letter formation and forming a cursive script.

Maths

In daily maths lessons we will develop number recognition skills by counting and working with numbers to 100. We will focus on learning our 2, 5 and 10 times tables. The children will develop calculation skills and use strategies to tackle problems with addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will learn number facts to 20 and 100, including quick recall of number bonds to 10 and 20. We will apply our learning to one and two step problems and develop a key understanding of measuring length and weight, money, time, shape, fractions of numbers, position and movement.

Science

We will experience lots of practical activities and investigations in science lessons. Our main theme for science this term is materials. We will distinguish between an object and the material from which it is made. We will identify and name a variety of everyday materials, including wood, plastic, glass, metal, water, and rock, describe the simple physical properties of a variety of everyday materials and compare and group together a variety of everyday materials on the basis of their simple physical properties. We will also study the weather associated with changes of the seasons.

P.E

The first half term we will be focusing on the key fundamentals of P.E. In the second half of term we will be looking at developing our key skills. Throughout our P.E lessons we will continue to learn about the need for a healthy lifestyle linking to science.

R.E

During the first half of the term we will be focusing on 'Where do I belong?'. We will be identifying religious symbols that show belonging to a religious group as well as recognising the key practices during ceremonies such as when you join Scouts. We will reflect upon which groups the children belong to and the significance of belonging to various groups.

In the second half of term our topic in R.E will be 'Why does Christmas matter Christians?'. Throughout this unit we will learn the story of Jesus' birth and look into why Jesus is important to Christians. We will learn about the Gospel and think about what we have to be thankful for at Christmas time.

History

During our topic work this term we will be finding out about different types of castles using a castle timeline, photographs and videos.. We will experience what it would be like to work in a medieval castle. We will learn about the main methods of attacking and defending a Motte and Bailey castle. We will also compare the lives and reigns monarchs and place their reigns and significant events within a chronological timeline. We will identify the key roles of a monarch and further our learning about these fascinating characters through a range of exciting and interactive activities.

Design Technology

We will develop our skills in designing, making and evaluating as we work on simple structures such as a castle. We will learn key skills to create towers and turrets, freestanding walls and hinges. We will then practically apply these skills to a project and evaluate our work commenting on features.

Geography

We will use basic geographical vocabulary to refer to key physical features and key human features. We will use aerial photographs and plan perspectives to recognise landmarks and basic human and physical features such as castles. In class we will use atlases to identify countries, capital cities and seas; draw a simple map and indicate where the best location for the new castle might be and present our ideas.

Art

We will be linking art to our topic as we study the work of a range of artists. We will explore different material. Art will be linked to topic and English work with the children gaining experiences in: colour mixing & painting, skills, drawing and sketching, collage & construction.

I.C.T

We will learn about the importance of E-safety and how to communicate online safely and respectfully. We will focus on basic coding, looking at algorithms and simple programming. We will look at the use of information technology beyond school.

P.S.H.E

We will follow the themes of 'New Beginnings' and 'Getting on and falling out'. Throughout the term, we will be exploring and developing our relationships with each other and increasing our independence skills. We will also look at sharing and supporting each other.

Music

The Shropshire Music Service will be continuing to deliver whole class music this term. In some lessons, the children will be learning to sing songs linked to various topics such as Bonfire Night, Harvest and Christmas. They will be creating music as they play tuned & un-tuned instruments and have the opportunity to listen and understand live and recorded music. Lessons will take place on a Wednesday afternoon.

Homework

We ask that you read daily with your child and record this in the reading diary.

Each week your child will be set English and maths homework to support and develop the learning of key skills. Homework will be set on a Friday and be due in the following Wednesday.

Spellings will be based on the spelling rules as set out in the National Curriculum and the spelling patterns that children are expected to know. Spellings will be set on a Friday ready for a test on the following Friday.

As a school we are going to continue to set a termly project linked to topic work. Information has been sent home in your child's pink Home School Links book.

Links have been made between curriculum areas in order that we can deliver an appropriate and enjoyable experience for the children.