



Being safe, being respectful, being *our* best

Earith Primary School: Curriculum Newsletter



Class: Bluebell
Term: Spring 2

English:

We will begin by reading '*The Mousehole Cat*' by Antonia Barber, exploring how a powerful sea-storm is personified as a 'cat' keeping fishing boat 'mice' trapped in the 'mousehole' of a harbour. Having discussed the effects of the author's language and symbolism on us as readers, we will produce our own descriptive and emotive writing. We will also produce diary entries from the perspective of different characters in this story.

The second text we will study this half term is a fascinating non-fiction book '*Amazing Islands*' by Sabrina Weiss. We will look at how information is organised on each page, identifying features such as subheadings, diagrams and paragraphs. We will research facts about islands around the world and create our own information pages.

Maths:

In Maths, we will be manipulating calculation relationships. Year 3s will be focussing on how to use and evaluate different strategies to add and subtract 2- and 3- digit numbers, which will help us secure our mental calculation. We will learn that both addition and subtraction equations can describe the same additive relationship (e.g. $175 + 125 = 300$, $300 - 125 = 175$) and use this to rearrange equations. Year 4s will be focussing on multiplying and dividing numbers by 10, multiples of 10, 100 and multiples of 100. Year 4s will also have opportunities to practice and prepare for the Year 4 Multiplication Check which will take place in the summer term.

Science:

In our unit of learning on 'States of Matter', we will be looking closely at how water changes from a solid (ice) to a liquid (water) and then a gas (water vapour). We will be focusing our learning on the water cycle as well as identifying cloud types.

Geography:

We will be learning about the human and physical features of China. Having located China on a world map, we will then locate some of the deserts, mountains, rivers and plains within the country. We will learn that China's major cities are located near rivers, in the areas that receive more rainfall. Finally, we will discover some of the main uses of land and learn about the country's main exports.

Religious Education:

In RE, we will consider 'What is the legacy of the Easter story?' We will find out that the book of Acts in the Bible tells the story of how the church began as Jesus' disciples spread the news of his death and resurrection. We will learn about the legacy of Jesus's teachings as well as looking at how Lent and Easter are celebrated by Christians today.

PSHE:

In PHSE, we will be thinking about managing risk. We will be exploring risky situations and how we can manage and minimise risk. We will be thinking about road safety, safety around water and learning some basic first aid skills.

Art:

In 'Modern Architecture' we will study some of the amazing buildings that have been designed and constructed within the last 30 years, primarily focussing on the Guggenheim Museum and the Scottish Parliament Building. We will find out that modern architects design functional and innovative buildings, taking inspiration from a variety of stimuli. We will draw the Guggenheim Museum in pencil and charcoal.

PE:

OUTSIDE: Our unit will be to continue 'Outdoor Adventurous Activities'; our team games and challenges this half term will be mainly located in school field and woodlands. We will learn how to make trails using natural items. We will also carry out some simple orienteering activities around the school grounds.

INSIDE: In our dance this half term we will be looking at cold places and the animals that live there. We will be looking closely and imitating the movement of penguins and polar bears. We will spend time performing interweaving patterns and shape patterns.

Music:

We will be looking at a variety of musical genres this half term. We will focus our work on 'Stop!' a song/rap written in a Grime style. In groups, we will make our own rap lyrics for the song.

Computing:

In Computing this term, we will be looking at photo editing. We will be learning how most images we see online are edited in some way, and learning how to edit an image ourselves. We will use a variety of online programs to edit our photos, learning how to rotate, crop and lighten images.

Foreign Language:

Year 3s will be learning the days of the week. Year 4 will learn vocabulary relating to sports. We will also learn how to give our opinions in French.

Big Questions for the Half Term:

What are the similarities and differences between traditional and modern architecture?

What is the legacy of the Easter story?

What is the relationship between the location of rivers and cities?

What are some of the main land uses in modern China?

How can movements of cold place animals inspire dance?

How can we use natural objects to make a trail?

How do I feel in risky situations and how might my body react?

Big Vocabulary for the Half Term:

Traditional, modern, architect, design, function, innovation, inspiration, process

Lent, disciples, church, faith, Jesus, New Testament, Bible, gospel

Trail, map, bearings, verbal, non-verbal

China, mountains, desert, arid, climate, river, port, arable, city

Dynamics, repetition, striding, bouncing, rolling, waddle, slide, glide

Physical, emotional, outcome, stereotypical, risky, unfamiliar, unknown

Other Information:

Teachers

Mrs Barber: Monday and Tuesday

Mrs Thompson: Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

Mrs Ray: French

TAs

Mrs Thurston (Tues and Weds a.m.) and Mrs Watson (Friday a.m.)

PE

Our PE days are:

Tuesday (outside kit needed including a change of shoes please) and Wednesday (inside kit needed)

Reminders

Please continue to hear your child read at home and encourage them to practise their times tables.