

CLASS/YEAR GROUP: Maple – Years 3 and 4

TEACHER: Miss Brown

DATE: Autumn 2020

OUR PLACE IN THE WORLD

Children will learn about areas far away from our school and about societies living in uninhabited areas. Through our PSHE unit, we will be considering how the rights of children have developed to what they are, for us, today. The children will become familiar with Human Rights, particularly those for children.

INSPIRED LEARNERS

They will create their own mini posters and leaflets for an audience within the school and the school website. Children will be exposed to watercolours and explore the works of Monet. They will experience awe and wander through the world's tallest peaks and tales of Everest.

LEARNING FOR LIFE

Children will build their fluency in poetry and spoken word to help them express themselves. They will develop their perseverance by learning key geographical features in Britain and the world, e.g. mountain ranges and countries. We will encourage them to critically evaluate their cookery in DT, making necessary improvements to ensure high-quality results.

English: This term we will be focusing on stories that create fear and suspense and we will start by looking at a fantastic book by Eva Ibbotson called 'The Abominables.' The children will learn how to develop their independence in writing across a range of text types as well as learning and understanding the different features that are used to create suspense. Our focus this term will be on developing vocabulary and spelling as well as being consistent with all punctuation taught previously. The children will also be looking at writing a range of non-fiction texts including persuasive writing and non-chronological reports on a variety of mountains. We will be using lots of drama, role play and speaking and listening through our talk for writing to help develop our ideas and understanding of the text we are learning about.



Science: Our science focus this term is on rocks. We will be finding out how rocks are formed and the different types of rocks that exist. We will be testing the permeability and durability of these rocks to best understand why they are used as building materials. We will also find out about archaeologist Mary Anning's discoveries and how fossils are created during the rock cycle, as well as looking closely at soil formation, creating our very own compost bins for worms.

Computing: This term we will be looking at how to produce our own posters and leaflets about mountains. The children will become familiar with the features of Microsoft Word and how to produce and publish a digital document. We will also be researching online for our posters and we will find out how to ensure that google searches are concise and specific to what we require. Alongside this, we will have a constant focus on e-safety. The children will learn how to stay safe whilst researching online and how to make sure that the websites they are using are safe to be on.

French: Linking with our mountains topic the children will be going on a journey to the French Alps using different modes of transport to get there. They will learn how to buy tickets and give directions to visit a variety of places.

PE: In the first half term we will be developing our rounders and athletics skills moving on to football in the second half term, looking closely at our footwork as well as attacking and defending. We will also be looking at gymnastics during our indoor sessions where we will learn how to sequence a performance.

Geography: In our geography unit, we will be studying the physical geography of mountains and mountain ranges, their formation, some famous expeditions and also mountain biodiversity. We will also be looking into climate change and the impact of human activity on the mountain environment. The children will find out about eco-tourism and how it can help to protect the mountains, as well as thinking about ways that we can use what we have learnt to protect our local environment.

Maths: As a class, we will spend the first four weeks of the Autumn term developing our understanding of place value and number. Year 3 will be working with 3-digit numbers and representing them in numerals, words, on blank number lines and using dienes. Year 4 will be developing their understanding by similar experimentation and familiarisation with 4-digit numbers. Linked to our topic, they will look at the heights of a range of mountains and round up and down to the nearest hundred (year 3) or thousand (year 4) and solve problems using their understanding of place value in a wide range of ways. Year 3 and 4 will then use their improved knowledge of place value to develop their skills in column addition and subtraction. As we move through the Autumn term, we will consolidate and develop formal written methods for multiplication and division. The children will also be developing their knowledge of times tables through weekly times tables rock star challenges, which will help them to move upwards in our school's rainbow times tables.

Art/DT: Through looking at artwork created by Monet, the children will explore river pieces linked to the valleys surrounding mountains and develop their use of watercolours and brush strokes. In DT, they will be extending their skills in cooking to design and make a healthy soup for a mountaineer.

RE: This term the children will be finding out the answer to the following questions; The Bible. What is it all about? And Who is Jesus? We will explore these questions by looking into the teachings of the Bible and what sacred texts and other sources say about God.

Music: We will be looking closely at great composers including; Vivaldi 'The Four Seasons' and Mussorgsky 'Night on the Bare Mountains'. We will be working on our improvisation skills and find out how to record a graphic score. Alongside this, we will be looking at how to take care of our voices and work on control when we are singing.



Important Dates & Curriculum Visits

Stunning Start: 10.09.20

School Photos: 23.09.20

Parent Teacher Consultations: 20 & 22.10.20

Half Term: 26.10.20 – 30.10.20

Forest School sessions: 2/9/16/23/30 Nov & 7 Dec

Anti-bullying Week: 16- 20/11/20

School Christmas Lunch: 16.12.20

Christmas Service date/arrangements TBC

Last day of Autumn Term: 18.12.20

Additional Information

Homework

The children will receive weekly spellings or spelling investigations via Seesaw on a Friday which they should learn at home/complete during the week. In addition they will be given one piece of maths homework per week which will reflect current learning. This will be set via Seesaw on a Friday and collected the following Thursday. This term the children will be set topic homework – this will be linked to the mountains topic. Further details to follow.

It is also advised that the children should read at home at least three times per week – this can be anything that interests the children including magazines and comic books. Please record this in your child's reading diary.

Ways That You Can Help Your Child with Our Topic

Any additional reading/research/trips to the library will support our in-school learning. Help with practicing of times tables – at the end of year 4 all children are expected to know the multiplication tables up to 12 X 12.

We also welcome your support in class to help hear the fantastic reading of the children, just let me know if you are available, thank you!

Stunning start & Fabulous Finish

Stunning Start:

We will start our topic by experimenting with chocolate to understand the different types of rock that make up mountains and volcanoes.

Fabulous Finish: The children will give a presentation to parents on what they have learned in their computing lessons creating their own posters and leaflets based around the theme 'Reaching for New Heights'.

PE/Games Kit/Days

PE will be on Mondays and Tuesdays, but please can the children have their PE kit in all week in case this needs to change.

The children will be participating in both indoor and outdoor PE throughout the term and therefore their kit should include our PE kit: shorts, t-shirt, plimsolls/trainers and jogging bottoms - please check all items are named in case we need to re-home them!

Jewellery should not be worn during PE.

Thank you!