Curriculum Newsletter

Year Five – Autumn Term Two

Core Subjects

English

In our English lessons this half term, children will use the inspiring short film Dreamgiver to develop their narrative writing skills. They will explore a range of techniques including expanded noun phrases, figurative language, fronted adverbials and suspense before planning and writing their own imaginative dream-based stories. As the unit progresses, pupils will build rich character and setting descriptions, compare characters, and learn how to create atmosphere and tension. They will finish by crafting a complete narrative that showcases their creativity and growing confidence as writers.

Following our Dreamgiver narrative unit, pupils will move on to writing biographies inspired by groundbreaking scientists and other influential figures. They will read and research real-life pioneers, including Mary Anning and other inspirational women in science, before planning and writing their own informative biographies.

Throughout the unit, children will develop their use of chronological organisation, formal language, fronted adverbials and relative clauses to engage and inform their readers. They will finish by publishing a biography that celebrates the achievements and lasting impact of a chosen inspirational figure.

Maths

We start the term investigating mass. We compare kilograms and grams. This will include working with decimal numbers. We then move onto multiplication and division. This includes multiplying and dividing large multi-digit numbers and problem solving, using multiplication and division. Later in the half term, we will cover time, which will include duration and converting time. Finally, we will again return to addition and subtraction and place value.

Science – *Changes in Properties*

In this Science unit, Year 5 children will investigate and compare the properties of a range of materials, learning how these properties make materials suitable for different uses. They will explore electrical and thermal conductors and insulators, sort materials based on their characteristics, and learn how some substances dissolve to form solutions.

Children will also investigate ways of separating mixtures, including filtering, sieving and evaporation, before exploring reversible and irreversible changes. Through practical investigations, they will develop their scientific enquiry skills by making predictions, carrying out tests, recording results and drawing conclusions from their observations.

Non- Core Subjects

Project: *Victorians* – *History & Art*

Throughout this topic, the children will be learning about life in Britain during the Victorian Era. They will cover areas such the British Empire, the Industrial Revolution and a number of other areas that will give them a good understanding of what life was like in the Victorian times. Finally, they will end this unit with an artistic element, sketching Victorian people using images and what they have learned during this topic.

Themed Week: Celebrations

Towards the run up to our Christmas holidays, we will be looking at how we celebrate Christmas and other festive holidays during this time. This is a time where children learn about other cultures and their traditions.

Computing

Learners will learn how to create short videos by working in pairs or groups. As they progress through this unit, they will be exposed to topic-based language and develop the skills of capturing, editing, and manipulating video. Learners are guided with step-by-step support to take their idea from conception to completion. At the conclusion of the unit, learners can reflect on and assess their progress in creating a video.

Physical Education (PE)

Tag Rugby: Children will learn rules of tag rugby whilst working on particular ball skills and working together as a team to play a game.

Dance: Greek Themed

The unit of work will challenge pupils to create movement using improvisation, to select and choreograph ideas into a sequence. Pupils will be able to use their bodies to perform technical movements with control and balance and good dynamics, concluding with an opening ceremony performance.

Religious Education (RE): *Christianity Focus*

This Christianity unit is about the true meaning of Christmas for Christians. The children will work creatively to enhance their learning experience. They will start by questioning the meaning of Christmas to them and then learn about the Christian meaning of Christmas. The children will question if the true meaning of Christmas is still present today and question if the meaning has changed for some.

Spanish

After half term, we will be learning how to introduce ourselves in Spanish. Children will use a mix of verbal and written work when completing their tasks. They have two enrichment weeks, also this half term, where they will learn about Christmas in Spain and about Spanish Culture.

Music

This is a six-week Unit of Work. All the learning is focused around two tunes and improvising: Three Note Bossa and Five Note Swing.

Along with practicing our Christmas songs for the Christmas Carols concern.

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)

Safety First.

This term, children will learn how to keep themselves safe by making responsible choices, assessing risks and knowing how to respond in emergencies. They will explore hazards at home and outdoors, including road, railway, water and firework safety, and learn strategies for managing peer pressure and seeking help when needed.

Children will also develop their teamwork skills by learning how to communicate effectively, resolve disagreements respectfully and understand the qualities of a successful team. They will explore the importance of supporting others and sharing responsibility when working together.