

St. Andrew's Newsletter Spring 1 2024

Happy New Year to everyone, and I hope you all managed to have some rest and family time over the festive period.

Curriculum

English -

We will continue to work from the Survivors story book, with a focus on the story of "The Survivor no one believed". We will use this story to ask questions and think about the experiences of the main character. We will be writing poetry and then moving onto formal letter writing. Our second text will be the classic poem "The Highway Man" by Alfred Noyes. We will study the story and the language used and then use these ideas to write our own poems.

Maths - The children will continue to be taught in discreet year groups for maths. Year Five have a small amount of fractions work to complete before moving onto the next unit of multiplication and division. We will look at the different methods that can be used for longer multiplication and division and how to apply this to problem solving. Year Six will also finish the unit of work on fractions and then move onto ratio and an introduction to algebra and the use of symbols as substitution. During CLIC time we will also spend time revisiting previously taught content and thinking about how to apply these to reasoning and problem-solving situations.

Science - This unit of work is called Animals including Humans. The children will look at different stages in the human life cycle and changes that are experienced at these times. They will also think about sexual and asexual reproduction of animals and plants and use their maths skills to compare gestation periods for different animals and think about the reasons behind these and look for patterns. As part of this topic, Year 5 will also have a more in-depth discussion about puberty and the changes that occur during this time. Information will be sent out separately about this.

History - Our unit of work will focus on Crime and Punishment through the ages. We will start in the Roman times and travel through the Anglo Saxon, Tudor and Victorian times. We will think about what a crime is, how crime has changed over time and how punishments have also evolved over time. As part of this topic we will think about significant people such as Dick Turpin and also legacies that have been left by different groups of people regarding law and order. A list of suggested reads, both fiction and non-fiction has also been sent out.

PSHE - Money Matters. The children will think about how we can decide what value for money is and how we can be influenced by advertising to spend our money. This will lead onto thinking about budgeting and how people can find themselves in debt. They will also look at what interest is, what tax is and how money from taxes can be used. This topic is being continued from last half term.

RE - Creation and Fall. During this unit of work we will be looking at the Christian story of creation. We will think about how views have changed about the creation story and how it is interpreted by different groups of Christians. We will also be discussing the idea of Christianity being conflicting and complementary - can someone be a scientist and believe in the story of creation?

Art - Japanese art. We will be looking at a variety of Japanese art styles, both traditional, such as origami and clay Daruma dolls and modern art such as manga and influential artists like Hokusai.

Music - The children will listen to a variety of different songs and think about the beat and the rhythm and how it makes them feel. They will learn parts of the songs and perform them together, using jazz as an influence.

PE

This half term our PE lessons will be on a Tuesday and Wednesday. We will be doing gymnastics, where the children will be looking at balance, flexibility and linking moves. They will also use apparatus such as ribbons and balls within their routines. The second unit of work will focus on hockey. The children will learn how to dribble, pass and control the ball and will have the opportunity play in small games. Please encourage your child to tie up their hair and remove jewellery on PE days and should come to school in the correct kit as listed in the uniform policy.

Homework

The children will be given homework on a Monday, and this should be handed in on a Friday morning. Spellings will be put onto the school website on a Monday and will not be given as a paper copy. Please go to the St. Andrew's page on the website and look on the homework and spelling page. The children should complete three different spelling activities in their books - please look in the front of the homework books for suggestions. The children are also expected to read to an adult three times a week and have this recorded in their reading records. There is no set day for the children to change their reading books, they may choose a new one when they have finished their current book. Finally, they should complete Times Tables Rockstars a minimum of three times a week.

If you or your child has any questions, please ask.

Regards,

Rebecca Hedley