



Kestrels Class + Miss Berry, Hedgehogs Class + Miss Skelley and Owls Class + Miss Woods

Spring Term 2018

Welcome back from the Y1/2 Team

Happy New Year! We hope you all had a relaxing and fun-filled Christmas holiday! We have an exciting Spring Term planned with our topic 'The Big Blue Planet'. We will be opening this topic with a trip to Plymouth Aquarium. This topic will cover all areas of the curriculum and have lots of opportunities for practical hands-on activities and investigations.

Literacy

We will be teaching literacy in blocked units of work, this will include: non-fiction writing, poetry, stories, instructions, recounts and letter writing. We will continue to teach reading daily through guided reading and phonics sessions, developing the children's range of decoding and comprehension skills. A particular focus will be on comprehension, which is why it is so important to discuss any reading with your children at home.

Mathematics

Maths areas include number, additive reasoning, multiplicative reasoning and shape. We will make maths come to life by using stories, real life problems and outdoor experiences. We will help children gain skills to solve problems in their heads as well as beginning to record their maths thinking using jottings and then more formal workings. Teaching will be differentiated to ensure the lessons challenge and support all children. Children will have opportunities to work alone and in pairs and in groups.

Science

Alongside 'thinking scientifically', our focus this term will be based on the topic of 'Cold, Wet and Wild' in which the children will do tests and investigations using different materials. The children will be encouraged to ask questions and make predictions over the term. The investigations they plan and undertake will be linked to our topic work on 'The Big Blue Planet'.

Computing

For computing this term, the children will be developing their basic skills, discussing online safety and looking at programmes such as paint to create colourful pictures relating to our topic. They will be using photos taken on the trip to the Aquarium to inspire their work in computing.

Physical Education

We will have two PE sessions a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We will be following the 'Real PE' programme which involves working together and building good sportsmanship. This reflects our 'Growth Mindset' ethos that we are continuing to work on as a school. **Please make sure the children have the correct P.E kits in school all week as they are sometimes needed for other activities.**

Other Curriculum

Geography – We will be finding out about the continents, oceans and maps. The children will also build their confidence in using an atlas to identify these different features. Later on in the term, we will look at the water cycle and the features of the beach.

History – David Attenborough and Grace Darling will form the basis of our history learning this term.

Art – We will begin our art this term with some observational drawing and in the second part of the term we will look at Natalie Pascoe, a Cornish Artist.

RE – We will be thinking about different celebrations throughout the world in a topic titled – 'Celebrations'.

Homework

Homework will be set on a Thursday and collected in the following Tuesday, giving teachers enough time to mark the children's books, before returning them with new homework. On most occasions, homework will be related to work completed in school or be building on basic skills which the children should be confident with by the end of the year. Please feel free to be as creative

as you like with the homework – if you find anything else that is linked to the homework for the week it would be good to see any of this evidenced in their homework book. Photographs can also be useful evidence.

Spellings will be given out and tested on a Tuesday. We really appreciate your support in encouraging homework to be completed to a good standard. Please ensure you hear your child read regularly from a range of sources which could include their school reading book, books from home, the internet, comics, brochures etc. Please comment regularly in your child's Planners to show us what they've read.

Film Consent

To enhance the children's learning, we occasionally find it useful to show clips / entire films on DVD. Occasionally these are not rated U, although any material used is viewed by staff first and checked for suitability. We ask that if you have any queries, or do not wish your child to see these materials, that you let us know. If we hear nothing, we will assume that this is acceptable.

Finally

Thank you to those who have already offered and/or helped out over the past term with welly walks and trips. Your help is very much welcomed and appreciated.

Please keep in touch with us by making notes in your journals – we love to hear about your child's achievements at home!

Also, please continue to send in 'Wow moments' as the children love to share these in their classes.

Dates

Thursday 8th February – Open Day

Tuesday 9th January - Trip to the Aquarium

Friday 2nd February - World Book Day

Tuesday 13th March – Hedgehogs' Class Assembly

Tuesday 27th March –Kestrels' Class Assembly

Many thanks, KS1 Team