



Langley Fitzurse C of E Primary School

Hercules Class Newsletter

Overview of learning for Spring Term 2018

Learning Theme: Ancient Footprints (Dinosaurs and Ice/Winter Weather)

English/ Lit, CL	We start by using the stories about winter weather e.g. 'Ridiculous', 'Elmer in the Snow', 'Penguin Small' etc. As a 'hook' into our Learning Theme we shall find a creature out in the cold, writing stories about it and generally caring for it until it is 'collected by its parent'. We shall watch the DVD 'The Snowman' and others e.g. 'Little Polar Bear', 'Happy Feet'. We shall write stories based on the theme and using the characters. We shall be learning and recording facts about e.g. penguins and polar bears, found in books and on the Internet. We shall read and write stories based on Dinosaurs and be learning facts about them. We shall watch the DVD 'Ice Age – The Dawn of the Dinosaurs' We shall be practising our dictionary skills. We shall be reading e-books. Listening skills will be a big focus throughout all learning. World Book Week will take place during this Term. We shall be continuing our phonics learning, using programmes including Phonics Play, Purple Mash and Phonics Bug.
Maths/ Maths	To start the term we shall be re visiting counting and understanding numbers, then incorporating this into calculations. We shall be working on knowing and using number facts. Please be prepared to help reinforce in learning e.g. pairs of numbers that total to 10 and near pairs e.g. 4+5. We shall be learning to add and subtract one and ten from a given number. We shall be developing the skill of mental maths calculation, extending the Year 1's to include simple multiplication (lots of) and division (shared by). Halving and doubling will be included in both year groups' work. Commutative maths will be a focus in Year 1 e.g. $10 \div 5 = 2$ and $2 \times 5 = 10$. We shall be continuing to learn about problem solving, shape, both 2D and 3D, and simple measurement and pattern.
Science/ UW	We will be focusing on weather changes associated with the season. We shall investigate ice, discussing how their hands feel and look after handling it. We shall observe what happens to ice when left in different conditions e.g. in the classroom, outside in the shade / sunlight, near the heater etc. recording the differences, and explore what happens to water when frozen and heated. The Reception children will explore how to free an animal trapped in the ice (toy e.g. seal frozen in a cup of ice placed in the freezer). We will investigate whether materials are waterproof or not, and compare two different materials and decide which would be appropriate for e.g. an umbrella and why? We shall explore the appropriateness of the children's winter coats and devise an experiment to determine warmth and if waterproof or not. We shall explore changing other materials e.g. bread, jelly, wax, chocolate – by e.g. heating and cooling. I shall introduce the use of the Star Science vocabulary i.e. using appropriate senses as a 1* scientist, predicting and finding out as a 2* scientist.

Computing/ UW	We shall focus on Algorithms (problem solving) and Communication. The Year 1's will continue to learn how to code characters to move in different directions, using the programme 'Espresso'. The F/S 2 children shall revise using the programmable robotic toys – Pixie and the 'Beebots', to solve problems e.g. rescuing trapped penguins etc. We shall be using the laptops and SMARTboard for e.g. fact finding investigations on the Internet, reminding the children about Internet Safety. We shall use various programmes that support our curricular learning e.g. Natural Revelation Art, Purple Mash.
Humanities/ UW	We shall be learning about Captain Scott and his companions' journey to the South Pole. We shall discover the hardships etc. We shall revise compass directions including the North and South Poles as in 'Penguin Small' and locate the North and South Poles and the Equator. We shall note seasonal and daily weather changes and learn the related vocabulary. We shall find out about extreme winter weather of the past e.g. when the Thames froze etc.
RE/ UW	We will cover two aspects i) Special People – Moses, in which we shall learn about Moses's life and teaching, ii) Special Celebrations – Easter, in which we shall learn about Lent, Easter and Passover and related celebrations and customs.
PE/ PD	The PE specialist, Mr Jones, will be covering half of my PPA time doing Multi Skills. I shall be using the scheme 'real PE' using stories e.g. 'Sammy Squirrel and his Rolling Nuts' with related activities linked to Agility and ball skills. I shall introduce low level gymnastics, insisting on listening to instructions and safety.
Music/ EAD	The musical focus is Loud and Quiet which we shall explore whilst following the section called 'Growth and Change' in the Music Express' scheme. We shall explore instruments to create our own music to accompany our learning theme stories. We shall use the Internet site 'Sing Up'. We shall be learning hymns and songs to perform in our Easter Service.
Art & DT/ EAD	The main focus in art this term is Texture and Tone, using textured wax crayon rubbings to make a collage dinosaur, to use wintery tones of blues, white and silver to create pictures and 3D art, such as woven winter spheres. We shall revise colour mixing with solid block paint, recalling how to mix secondary and tertiary colours. We shall review work by craftsmen such as Claude Monet and Edwin Church. We shall utilise the construction kits and re-cycled materials in challenges e.g. to make ice-breaker ships, and to create bird feeders. We shall prepare ingredients for smoothies and flavoured ice lollies.
French (Non-Statutory)	The children will learn to greet, ask and respond to questions about feelings, and state their name. They will learn some topic related vocabulary.
PD/ PSED	The Values of Faith, Family, Respect, Friendship and Reflection will be a focus on a weekly rota. Mrs Porter (TA) will introduce the scheme 'Jigsaw' this term. We will also be using ideas from the scheme 'Learn 4 Life', using the themes 'Looking Forward' and 'My Friends and Family'. The children will continue to take turns and join in discussions using an audible voice e.g. Circle Time and School Council Meetings. We shall continue our learning about ourselves i.e. their feelings and how to respond positively to them and show empathy to their peers. We shall continue our focus on more active listening skills. There will continue to be a focus on striving for targets and being role models. The children will also learn about being Resourceful and Resilient – two of our 4 R's.

Home Learning: Rec and Year 1's :

The 'Fun Home Learning Activities' sheet (also to be used if we have 'snow days')

Reading – both from books and e-books

Optional IT :

Bug Club reading

Mathletics

Spellings

Year 1's :

A Maths revision activity

A Phonics based activity

Helping in school:

Help in class or elsewhere around the school is always appreciated. If you have some spare time to hear readers, work with a group or to share a skill or hobby, please speak to me. If you would like to help on a more regular basis, please let me know so I can add you to the timetable and plan how I can best use your help.

Class teacher - Mrs Ros Hutchins

Acronyms :

CL – Communication and Language

PD – Physical Development

PSED – Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Lit – Literacy

UW – Understanding the World

EAD – Expressive Arts and Design

Maths - Mathematics