

Learning Theme: The Railways

English	Through the use of interactive whole class stories, we will be focussing on descriptive settings and characterisation. We will make regular use of the thesaurus and dictionary to explore vocabulary for effect. We will have lots of practise writing dialogue and remembering all the rules. We will write poems that incorporate our learning theme of railways. Spelling patterns from the year 4 and 5 curriculum will be covered over the year. We will ensure time is spent on editing and reviewing our work in order to improve the quality and learn from our mistakes.
Maths	Much time will be spent on understanding place value. It is from this basis that children will learn to manipulate numbers in different ways. We will continue to work on the four main operations and develop different methods of calculation including various mental methods. We will learn to find fractions of shapes, numbers and quantities. We will learn the properties of various 2D and 3D shapes. We will have regular occasions practising our times tables.
Science	This unit focusses on the Earth, Sun and Moon. We will learn about the different sizes and distances between these objects. We will investigate how and why shadows move over the day and conduct practical tests to measure this. We will learn about the changing of the seasons over the year. The planets of our solar system will be learnt and studied.
Computing	In Computing this term we will be using the Thinkuknow.co.uk website to support and extend our understanding of how to keep ourselves safe online. We will also be developing our typing and word processing skills to enable us to produce posters in Microsoft Word demonstrating our e-safety knowledge.
Humanities	This unit is about the development of the Railways in Great Britain giving children the opportunity to find out about the history of the railways and significant early locomotives. They will also investigate some important historical events, such as the opening of the first passenger carrying railway lines and the Rainhill Trials and they will learn about some of the key people who were influential in the development of the railways. In addition to this they will learn about the development of locomotive technology and examine the differences between steam, diesel and electric locomotives. The children will also learn about the growth and development of the railway network in Great Britain and use their geographical skills to map out some key routes. They will also use their speaking and listening skills to debate the positive and negative effects of the railways on different aspects of society.
RE	In RE this term we will be exploring the five pillars of Islam and the importance of these to Muslim believers. Pupils will gain a greater understanding of Islam and what we can learn from its beliefs, values and ideas.
PE	PE lessons outside will involve different invasion games. Children will learn rules and tactics to play cooperatively and competitively. Indoor PE this term will be gymnastics, focussing on jumping, balancing and rolling with control. Children will work on developing sequences of movements and demonstrate suitable posture.
Music	Music lessons will focus on listening skills. The children will be exposed to a range of different music across many musical styles and genres. We will learn how to describe what we hear, relating to the different musical elements. We will describe and explain how instruments can be played in contrasting ways to create different

	effects.
Art/DT	We will use a range of media and techniques to create the impression of movement in our artwork, linking with the idea of looking out of a train window. We will also build shadow puppets and mini light theatres and link with English work to create puppet stories and story-telling.
MFL	Children will continue to practise speaking, listening and writing the French language. The themes covered this term are: Greetings, Feelings, Numbers and Colours.
PSHE	We will continue to use circle time to allow and encourage all children to express their thoughts and views on a range of different topics. We will use a range of stories to explore various personal and interpersonal themes, including change, loyalty, decisions and sadness.

Home Learning:

Children are encouraged to be independent learners. Children's own projects and research connected to our learning theme are welcomed and celebrated in class.

English and Maths homework tasks are given out on Thursdays to be returned for marking by Tuesday the following week. Mathletics and Bug Club activities may also be set. Spellings lists will be learnt and tested in class each week but some children may be given additional high frequency words to learn at home. Additional handwriting may also be set.

Regular reading at home is important for all children as even able readers need to practise reading aloud. Please ensure that your child reads to you at least three times each week, and write a brief note in the reading record book when they do. Reading records will be checked to see this happens. Learning to tell the time and using money can all be usefully practised at home.

Knowledge of times tables and number facts is practised regularly in class, but it is beneficial if the children can work on these skills at home too.

PE Kit:

PE is planned to take place on Monday and Thursdays. The school timetable, however, is often subject to change so please make sure PE kit for indoor and outdoor lessons is in school every day.

Helping in school:

Help in class or elsewhere around the school is always appreciated. If you have some spare time to hear readers, or to share a skill or hobby, please let me know.

Mr James Osler

Class teacher