Attenborough Class Newsletter

Autumn 1 - 2023

Welcome back to school and welcome to your new class/year group!!! I hope you had a great Summer holiday! Our new topic for this half term is Space in our 'Is there anybody out there?' topic.

Topic – Is anybody out there?

Linking Science and History we will be delving into the fascinating world of Space. Learning about the discoveries that have been made and the ones we hope to make in the near future. The children will be learning about the planets in our solar system and about the conditions on each so they can decide if they would 'like' to live on a different planet and find out if it even would be possible!!

Maths

We will start the half term working on comparing and ordering numbers, this includes large numbers over 1,000, 000 as well as decimal numbers to 2 decimal places. Within this place value and number unit we will be exploring rounding in more depth rounding number to the nearest 100, 1000, 10,000 and 100,0000. We will then be moving on to calculations and this will include some work calculating with fractions as well as whole numbers and decimals. The year 6 will be learning more about algebra and how to calculate when letters are involved with Maths.

Art

Children will have the opportunity to create their own paper-mache planets and paint them. We hope to hang these up in the classroom to make our own creative solar system with planets of all sizes floating around.

Modern Foreign Languages

Mercury

We will be continuing our learning of French this term. We will be re-capping the names of buildings on the high street, the names for occupations and days of the week. We will then be learning classroom routines in French.

PDL / Circle Time

We will spend some time each week learning about 'Rights and Respect', exploring the importance of responsible behaviours and actions, as well as learning about different groups and communities and respecting equality. The children will also learn about where money comes from, keeping it safe and the importance of managing it correctly.

Topic - Science

This term in Science the children will be learning about the planets in our solar system, meteorites, stars and the universe. We will be linking in work by the famous Scientist, Steven Hawking, with some of his work on black holes. A very exciting exploration into outer space!

PE and Games

Games will be on a Wednesday morning with Mr Holmes our sports coach and PE will be dance on a Tuesday. In PE the children will be learning new skills and creating their own dance sequences individually and in small groups. Please ensure your child has their PE kit in school all week as sometimes there may be a timetabling change or we may have the opportunity to have an extra session. Tracksuit bottoms may be worn outside during the colder weather. Please remind your child to take their kit home at the weekend to be washed. Long hair needs to be tied back and no jewellery (including earrings unless covered) is allowed to be worn during PE and Games sessions.

Computing

The children will be learning how to become game developers. They will:

- Create original artwork and sound for a game.
- Design and create a computer program for a computer game, which uses sequence, selection, repetition and variables.
- Detect and correct errors in their computer game.
- Use iterative development techniques
- Making and testing a series of small changes) to improve their game.

Music

In Music we are going to embark on a musical journey through the solar system, exploring how our universe inspired composers including Claude Debussy, Gustav Holst and George Crumb. The children learn a song, and compose pieces linked to space

English

We are starting our English work this half term with a unit of poetry to get the children back into the creative writing. They will be learning different figurative language techniques to support them in creating their poems.

Then we will be looking at the short clip 'The One For All' (Heinz Beans) video where the children will write a biographical text about the future endeavours of Geoff. We will be exploring new vocabulary, along with sentence structure and re-writing our own parts of the story. The children will have the opportunity to write their first draft, then edit and improve their work both independently and with a peer as well as the teacher.

We will also be learning spelling rules every day which will link with the spellings set for homework and will be continually revisited in our grammar sessions (when relevant) as well as handwriting sessions. Grammar will be taught within English lessons as well as in separate sessions as morning activities and afternoon sessions. We will be revisiting all aspects of grammar within the primary curriculum from prefixes and suffixes through prepositions, contractions and on to the passive and active voice.

Home Learning

Home learning tasks will be set online on a Wednesday (starting on the second week back) and should be handed in by the following Monday. Remember to fill in Boom Reader when your child had read at home - this could be to an adult, child or reading to themselves. Reading to your child as well as listening to them read is important to help your child progress, no matter how confident they are. We expect children to be reading at home at least 3 days a week.

Year 6 homework will be CGP books to help them prepare for their SATs at the end of the year.