



Kingfishers Newsletter Autumn Term 2018

Our topic this term is '**Into The Woods**'; it will have a strong link to Science and Geography. Please find further details about each subject below.

<p>English</p> 	<p>As ever, Our English and topic will be closely linked this term. We will be reading lots of traditional tales set in woodlands and using them as the context for our learning, as well as having a go at writing our own stories. We will also explore parodies of traditional tales and discuss which versions we like best. We will read myths relating to how trees got their names and have a go at making up some of our own, as well as recounting our forthcoming trip to Fineshade Wood.</p> <p>We will be building on Year 1 work in Phonics as well as looking at spelling patterns in order to expand our vocabulary and learn common spelling rules. We do not have spelling tests, but each week we will focus on a specific set of words/rules, in addition to learning common exception (high frequency) words - please look at the website each week! Through our guided reading and books we'll be covering the Year 2 grammar objectives, making them meaningful and relevant.</p>
<p>Maths</p> 	<p>Maths lessons take place every day and we also have regular, 'short and snappy' mental maths sessions (eg: from 8.40, before lunch, etc) for 10-15 minutes. This term we will focus heavily on developing number fluency so that children can recognise and use numbers confidently. This will involve a lot of counting - forwards, backwards, from different start numbers and developing children's understanding of place value so that they can order numbers. We will also focus on learning number facts e.g. doubling, halving, 2x and 5x tables. Our topic will also provide opportunity for using maths in a purposeful way, for example, planning routes around the woodland, measuring the lengths of leaves and the circumferences of trees.</p>
<p>Science</p> 	<p>Our Science work this term will link closely to our topic 'Into the Woods'. The children will learn about the plants and trees in their local environment, their basic structure and how to care for them. We will also learn about micro-habitats in our school environment. Throughout the year, they will be encouraged to observe changes across the four seasons, including the weather associated with each season.</p>
<p>Computing</p> 	<p>We'll be learning this term about the huge variety of technology available to us, both at school and at home; linked in with this is of course internet safety. Digital maps and resources are widely used today so we'll be looking at aerial maps and satellite images using popular browsers such as Google.</p>
<p>Geography</p> 	<p>Our humanities learning will have a strong geography emphasis - we'll be looking at our local environment and answering geographical questions such as 'What is this place like?' During the first couple of weeks this term, we will start by exploring the River Great Ouse and consider how rivers begin and where they go to. We'll also have a go at following maps, using 'aerial' programmes (such as Google Earth) to see if we can recognise landmarks and basic physical features .</p>

<p>Art & DT</p> 	<p>In Art we will look closely at pattern and texture in the world around us. We will spend time in the woodland making rubbings and exploring pattern in the natural world. We will experiment with pencil, charcoal and chalk and the different marks they can make. The children will take inspiration from the book 'Into the Woods' to make their own forest display. We will also use different materials to make collages. In DT, the children will have the opportunity to design and make their own 'Gingerbread House' from the traditional tale 'Hansel and Gretel'.</p>
<p>Music</p> 	<p>In Music, we will listen to and enjoy a variety of songs which teach us about history with a particular focus on South Africa and freedom songs. Later in the term we will enjoy and learn a variety of festive songs and will explore similarities and differences. We will also take part in a weekly 'Singing Assembly' as well as enjoying plenty of singing opportunities in the classroom.</p>
<p>PSHE</p> 	<p>PSHE lessons at the beginning of this term will focus on the 'Golden Rules' and the 'School Games Values' to ensure that all children have a good understanding of the behaviours we expect to see in school. Later in the term, we will move on to rights, rules and responsibilities as well as learning about beginnings and belonging (for example, to a class, family, club, etc).</p>
<p>Physical Education</p> 	<p>In indoor PE lessons this term, we will be focusing on gymnastics and multiskills. The children work as pairs and small groups to create sequences and will develop their co-ordination skills through multiskill activities. After half term, we will also benefit from a sequence of games session delivered by the Hunts School Sports Partnership.</p>
<p>Religious Education</p> 	<p>This term we will be learning about the Christian celebrations of Harvest, in addition to learning about thanksgiving in other religions. We will be exploring why these celebrations are special and the different ways in which they are celebrated. We will use stories to learn about how Jesus inspired people and reflect upon the people in our lives that inspire us. Later on in the term we will learn about the Christmas story.</p>
<p>Other Information</p> 	<p>Please ensure that your child is well equipped for school - water bottle (every day!) and waterproof are essential! It is useful for children to keep a pair of wellies at school (there is a welly rack outside our cloakroom). PE kit must consist of suitable indoor and outdoor clothing; sturdy, well-fitting trainers (not plimsolls) are a must. Our PE days this term are Mondays and Wednesdays, as well as taking part in monthly Friday Sports Mornings.. Please ensure your child brings their full PE kit to school with them on a Monday and takes it home on a Friday.</p>

And finally...

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mrs Siân Grant