



Kingfishers' Newsletter Spring Term 2017

Our topic this term is '**Megastructures**'; it will have strong links to Science, D.T., History and Geography. Please find further details about each subject below.

<p>English</p> 	<p>Our English and topic will be closely linked again this term. We will be looking at lots of information texts and using websites to help us learn about megastructures and 'The Great Fire of London'. We will be writing lots of labels, lists, definitions and explanations to communicate what we have learnt and help us to plan the megastructures we are going to build ourselves in the classroom. We will also continue to develop our writing for stamina by writing narratives about real events and imaginary inspired by our topic. This term in Spellings the emphasis will be on <i>applying</i> their learning from phonics and looking at spelling patterns so that the children are able to make decisions about which spelling rules to use when and why in their independent writing. The children will continue to revise high frequency words and unpick the spellings of tricky words.</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 continue to focus on number fluency but put more of an emphasis on problem solving involving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.</p> <p>This term our topic on 'Megastructures' offers lots of opportunities to use maths in a purposeful way. The children will be investigating 'Record Breakers' which gives them the opportunity to compare and order. They will also need to apply their number knowledge when making measurements for their own megastructures.</p>
<p>Science</p> 	<p>Our Science work this term will link closely to our topic 'Megastructures'. The children will investigate different materials in order to learn about their characteristics. They will then apply their learning to plan their own designs according to a given brief. We will also be taking part in the 'Big Schools' Birdwatch towards the end of January.</p>
<p>Computing</p> 	<p>Our learning this term will focus on using websites to carry out research. The children will have lots of opportunities to navigate, explore and learn from a range of educational websites. They will use Google maps to locate key places linked to our topic - Megastructures. We'll also be using the 'Paint' programme to make our own megastructure pictures using 2D shapes.</p>
<p>Geography</p> 	<p>Linked to our topic, the children will be learning about a famous megastructure on each continent. There will be lots of opportunities for the children to explore world maps and locate continents for themselves before we hone in on a particular megastructure. We will also be aerial maps and satellite images to help us get a closer look at different megastructures from around the world.</p>

<p>Art & DT</p> 	<p>In Art we will be using lots of different techniques, including digital media, pastels and printing to make our own megastructure pictures.</p> <p>The children will plan, make and evaluate their own megastructures using junk modelling materials and construction resources. They will practice joining materials in different ways.</p>
<p>Music</p> 	<p>In Music this term all of our learning will be focused on the song: In The Groove. The children will play games to develop their understanding of pulse, rhythm and pitch, sing along and play instruments to perform the song in lots of different ways. They will also take part in a weekly 'Singing Assembly'.</p>
<p>PSHE</p> 	<p>The focus in PSHE lessons this term will be 'Myself and My Emotions'. This unit helps children to develop a better understanding of their emotions and how best to manage them. It also helps them to recognise emotions in others.</p> <p>There is also a whole school focus this term on 'Pride'. This will include taking pride in the school surroundings as well as in every piece of work.</p>
<p>Physical Education</p> 	<p>In outdoor PE this term through multi skills activities we will be practising and developing our control and co-ordination in sending and receiving balls and using a variety of equipment. In their indoor PE lessons, the children will be responding creatively through dance linked to our topic on the Great Fire of London. The children will also work with a professional coach on developing their core skills; agility, balance and coordination.</p>
<p>Religious Education</p> 	<p>This term we will be learning about what makes a church a special place for Christian people. We will be identifying key features within a church and what purpose they serve. We will have the opportunity to make visits to our local church and look for some of these features. Later on in the term the children will learn about the Christian celebration of Easter.</p>
<p>Other Information</p> 	<p>The focus for home learning this term will continue to be spellings and reading, please continue to support your child to learn their spellings each week and aim to listen to them read at least 3 times a week.</p> <p>Please can you ensure that your child has a full PE kit in school with them, which must consist of indoor and outdoor clothing; suitable trainers (not plimsolls) are really important, a warm jumper and jogging bottoms, as we will be outside for one lesson a week. Our PE days this term are Mondays and Wednesdays, as well as taking part in once a month Friday Sports Afternoons. Please ensure your child brings their PE kit to school with them on a Monday and takes it home on a Friday.</p> <p>Children will still need a pair of wellies and waterproofs in school throughout the week this term.</p> <p>It would be really helpful if your child could bring their belongings to school in a small bag as we are very limited with space in the cloakroom.</p>

And finally...

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

Mrs Amanda Read