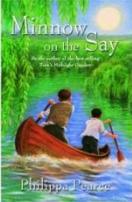




Eagles' Class Newsletter Autumn Term 2016

<p>English</p> 	<p>Our Literacy work this term will be centred around our class topic work and the book 'Minnow on the Say' by Philippa Pearce. At the start of the term we have looked at the book 'Beegu' by Alexis Deacon. We will be writing in a variety of genres including formal persuasive writing and will have the opportunity to write stories and poetry. Throughout the term we will be ensuring that our handwriting is fluent, legible and joined and that our spelling is accurate, using a dictionary to check words we are unsure of in all our writing. We will also begin to work towards learning all the punctuation marks and sentence structures we will be mastering throughout the year. When we have learnt a new skill we will be showing these off within our everyday writing. We will be reading independently each day and will also work in small guided groups to develop our ability to retrieve, summarise and infer meaning within a text.</p>
<p>Maths</p> 	<p>Each day the children will take part in a daily Mathematics session. This term we will be introducing the children to the new mathematical content within the year 5 curriculum. During and after each session the children's understanding will be assessed in order to ensure that they are appropriately supported or extended in their learning. We will be focusing on ensuring that the children are fluent and confident in their addition, subtraction, multiplication and division skills and that they can apply this knowledge to accurately solve word-problems, as well as undertake investigations and solve reasoning questions. Each week the children will continue to work on their mental maths skills to keep their skills sharp and to allow us to identify areas which need to be recapped either individually or as a class.</p>
<p>Science</p> 	<p>Earlier this term we were excited to find a small wooden model boat in the river by the mill. This got us thinking of the story 'Paddle to the Sea'. As scientists we will consider the best material to use to create a model boats so we do not pollute the river. To do this we will investigate solubility and find out which materials dissolve. We will also find out how to recover substances which have dissolved such as the pollution in the story. We will investigate which materials are best to make a boat which would stand the best chance of making it to the sea. We will test their different properties, making careful choices about how we record our results. We will question what would happen to our boats under different circumstances such as if the material was heated/ cooled. Could we restore the material back to its original form? Which materials could be recovered and which have been permanently altered? We will also investigate water resistance and other types of friction and consider the impact of this knowledge on our boat designs.</p>
<p>Geography</p> 	<p>Our topic this term is 'Paddle-to-the-Sea'. At the start of term we discovered a small model boat by the mill and within our guided reading groups we are reading the book 'Paddle to the Sea'. As Geographers we will question whether if we put a model boat into the river at Houghton whether it would travel to the sea as 'Paddle' did? We will investigate the route the boat would take to the sea and create our own maps, evaluating the effectiveness of different styles of maps. We will look at the settlements which our boat would travel past on its way to the sea and ponder whether there is a link between the physical geography and the human activity in the area. Furthermore we will investigate the water cycle and, linking into our science, will look at the journey of the snow upon which paddle was first placed. We will learn and understand the terms solids, liquids and gases, changes of state, evaporation and condensation. We will also investigate erosion and the effects on our environment with flooding.</p>
<p>Computing</p> <p>Internet Safety</p> 	<p>We will be focusing on our personal safety online. We will be learning how quickly we can lose control of our online content and the consequences of sharing online. We will demonstrate this by posting a picture of our boat online and seeing how far it can travel in the world. Later in the term we will be learning how computer networks work and about the difference between the world wide web and the internet.</p>

<p>Art &</p>  <p>Design Technology</p>	<p>As Artists we will be looking at the art of Seurat and will learn about his life and work. We will make sketches of the river and produce our own art based on his techniques. We will also look at the patterns found within Native American Art. As Mathematicians we will investigate the symmetry of these patterns and create our own patterns. We will investigate how we can translate and rotate these patterns to create new designs.</p> <p>As Designers we will design and make model boats which could make the journey to the sea. To ensure that the environmental impact of our boats would be minimal we will carefully choose materials which best suit our purpose and create models to a high standard. We will investigate the manmade obstacles which our boat may meet along its journey to the sea. We will look at locks and investigate mechanical systems such as gears, pulleys, cams, levers and linkages. We will look at the use of these within the mill.</p>
<p>Music</p> 	<p>We will be studying Rock for the first half term, looking at the song 'Don't stop Believin' a Rock anthem by Journey. We will be using this song and other 'rock' music to study pulse, rhythm and pitch as well as singing and playing instruments. For the second half term we will be focusing on Smetana's 'The Moldau', listening and appraising its quality of representing a river. We will then use the instruments to compose our own compositions based on a river.</p>
<p>PSHE</p> 	<p>Our first unit of work this term is Beginning and belonging. In this unit, children will take part in activities to build positive relationships in the class and to develop their skills of cooperation. They will explore the range of new situations they or others may find themselves in, and the emotions they or others may experience. We will also revisit and develop the concept of their own 'Networks of Support', and consider how they can provide help and support to others. For the second half term we will be working on the unit Family and friends. In this unit, children will continue to consider their networks of people who are special to them, and how they are changing and developing as they get older. They will continue to develop their skills in making new friendships, and in maintaining and coping with challenges in existing friendships and other relationships. They will also consider the value of diversity within friendships, and understand that there is a wide range of different family situations in which people live. The role of groups in friendship will be considered, including both the benefits and pressures that can bring. They will explore why and how to seek support from people they trust, and how they themselves can and do support others.</p>
<p>Physical Education</p> 	<p>For the first half term we are fortunate to have a specialist teacher teaching us for Netball, these sessions will take place on a Wednesday afternoon. Our outside PE time after half term will then focus on Tag Rugby. Inside PE will focus on gymnastics skills of balance, control and composition of phrases. We will also look at Native American Dance which stems from our literacy work. We will take part in many intra school competitions/activities during our Sporting Fridays and will be developing our leadership skills on Thursday afternoons with Play leader training with Mrs Leivers. PE kits should be brought in every Monday and left in school for the week.</p>
<p>Religious Education</p> 	<p>Our main focus for RE this term will be Hinduism. We will be learning about the main beliefs and practices of this religion, allowing the children time to research a god of their choice. We will then be focusing in particular on the significance of the River Ganges and will be thinking about why particular places have special significance to people.</p>
<p>MFL</p> 	<p>This term we will continue to recap the conversational language we have learnt so far by taking part in conversations, trying to develop our fluency and confidence. We will be extending our learning by focusing on expressing likes and dislikes, colours and clothes. We will also look at Nikolaus-Tag and German Christmas.</p>
<p>Other Information and Finally</p>	<p>Home learning remains a vital part of your child's learning and we value your support in this. As always Mathletics tasks will be set each week and we encourage your child to attempt to achieve a certificate by gaining 1,000 points during a week. Regular reading at home remains an important part of their learning, helping them not only to develop their vocabulary but their own written style. We aim to foster within the children a life-long love of reading for pleasure and self-development. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions and queries.</p> <p>Tina Culpin</p>