



Owls' Newsletter Autumn Term 2018

We hope you all had a lovely summer. The children have come back keen and ready to learn, and are already working very hard. We have an exciting term ahead. Please see below for an overview of the work we will be doing over the coming term.

 <p>English</p>	<p>This term our topic is <i>Chocolate</i> and in English we will be reading <i>Charlie and the Chocolate Factory</i> by Roald Dahl. The children will be looking closely at the characters, setting and plot and using these as a stimulus for their own writing. They will also write poetry that uses their senses to describe chocolate and create their own recipes.</p> <p>In the second half of the term we will be reading an ancient Mayan traditional story: <i>The Rain Player</i>. In all their writing the children will focus on using key punctuation and organising their writing effectively, as well as developing a wider range of vocabulary, improving their spellings and developing a neat, joined handwriting style.</p>
 <p>Maths</p>	<p>Each day the children will take part in a daily Mathematics session. Maths will also be an important part of our topic work this term. They will be comparing the temperatures of England and countries that grow cacao trees. They will also be collecting data on chocolate consumption and presenting this data in different ways. Alongside this they will focus on place value and the four operations (+ - x ÷), developing their written and mental methods for each, as well as using and applying them in problem solving situations. They will also be using centimetres, millimetres and metres to measure objects.</p>
 <p>Science</p>	<p>This term the children will investigate the different types of teeth in humans and their simple functions. They will learn how to look after their teeth and keep them healthy. They will also explore the different parts of the digestive system and consider how they work. Later on in the term, science will link closely to our topic on chocolate as the children learn about changing states.</p>
 <p>Computing</p>	<p>This term the children will be learning how to use the Paint program on the Purple Mash website. They will also learn how to access and use the internet safely.</p>
 <p>Geography</p>	<p>This term we will be finding out where chocolate comes from and identify key chocolate growing regions of the world in an atlas. We will discover why the climate in these countries is suitable for growing cacao trees and investigate the importance of Fair-trade for the people who work there.</p>

History	<p>In the second half of the term there will be a history focus as we find out about the people who first discovered chocolate: the ancient Maya civilisation. This is a very exciting and interesting period of history, with pyramids, hieroglyphs and a ball game that was played to settle disputes between different tribes. <i>Mexicolore</i> will be visiting us to share their expertise and engage the children in many 'hands on' activities.</p>
 Art & Design Technology	<p>In the first half of the term the children will be working on improving their sketching skills. In the second half of the term our research on the ancient Maya will inspire artwork made from clay and textiles. The focus of DT this term will be a project to design and create a new chocolate bar. A representative from Hotel Chocolat will be visiting to teach us more about chocolate production and design.</p>
 Music	<p>In Music the children will continue to develop their singing skills. They will also compose their own music creating 'machines' (for the chocolate factory) using different percussion instruments and rhythmic ostinato patterns.</p>
 PSHE	<p>Our PSHE topics this term are: New Beginnings, Rules and Responsibilities and Keeping Healthy.</p>
 Physical Education	<p>This half term the children will learn hockey and gymnastics. Please make sure your child has an indoor and outdoor PE kit in school each day.</p>
 Religious Education	<p>Religious Education in the first half term will focus on Hinduism. The children will learn about the key beliefs and practices of Hindus and look at stories that are important to their religion. Later on in the term, the children will explore how Christmas is celebrated by different religions around the world.</p>
 MFL	<p>Now the children are in KS2 they will start to learn German. They will talk, read, write and sing in German!</p>
Other Information	<p>Home learning will be set each week. Please look on the Owls' home Learning page on the school website for details.</p>

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.
Julie Davison and Lauren Ferrett