



Wrens 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>Our English and topic work 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 different versions of traditional tales, including Red Riding Hood, and discuss which ones we like best. We will use our forthcoming trip to Fineshade Wood as a stimulus for writing.</p> <p>In Phonics this term, we will start by revising the graphemes taught in Reception and applying this phonic knowledge to help us read words and sentences. We will be practising saying out loud what we want to write and making our sentences make sense. We will make sure that we form our letters correctly, use finger spaces to separate words and use capital letters and full stops to show where sentences begin and end. Reading is a key part of our learning so, in addition to reading a wide variety of texts at home, there'll be regular guided reading sessions in the classroom and a huge variety of reading opportunities throughout the school day.</p>
<p>Maths</p> 	<p>Maths lessons take place every day and we also have regular, 'short and snappy' mental maths sessions during the day. 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. There will be lots of opportunity for us to use mathematical knowledge in our topic work.</p>
<p>Science</p> 	<p>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. We'll be thinking of questions that we'd like to know the answers to and experimenting in order to find these out. Throughout the year, children 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?' We will be comparing our village to other environments and observing daily and seasonal weather changes. 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 use materials from the natural world both to inspire and to create. We will experiment with a range of media to make a forest display as well as doing some observational drawing. In DT, the children will have the opportunity to design and make their own woodland house and something edible with a seasonal theme.</p>
<p>Music</p> 	<p>Singing will take place each week, starting off with Harvest songs before learning Christmas and celebration songs. Class music sessions will involve learning about different notes (duration and rhythm) and the effect they have on music and songs. We'll also have a go at using some instruments to create effects and will enjoy listening to different music, thinking about the effect it may have on the listener.</p>
<p>PSHE</p> 	<p>PHSE 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>This half term, we benefit from a sequence of gymnastics session delivered by the Hunts School Sports Partnership. In outdoor PE lessons , we will be focusing on multi-skills. The children will work in pairs and small groups and, through these activities, will develop both their co-ordination and their ability to work as part of a team.</p>
<p>Religious Education</p> 	<p>This term we will be learning about what it is like to be part of a Christian family and the customs which are connected with this such as going to church, reading the Bible, prayers and baptism. We will look at the celebrations of Harvest and Christmas with particular focus on why these festivals are important to Christians.</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 half-term are Tuesdays and Fridays .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 Anne Wilkinson