



## Wrens' 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><b>English</b></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 be taking part in the 'Big Schools' Birdwatch towards the end of January which lends itself beautifully to some descriptive writing about birds!</p> <p>In phonics this term the emphasis will be on <i>applying</i> our learning from last term 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><b>Maths</b></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><b>Science</b></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.</p>
<p><b>Computing</b></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. We'll also be using the 'Paint' programme to make our own megastructure pictures using 2D shapes.</p>
<p><b>Geography</b></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><b>Art &amp; DT</b></p> 	<p>In Art we will be using lots of different techniques, including digital media 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><b>Music</b></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><b>PSHE</b></p> 	<p>The focus in PHSE 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><b>Physical Education</b></p> 	<p>It's all about developing core skills in PE this term! In their indoor PE lessons, the children will be 'Rocking &amp; Rolling' in gymnastics and in their outdoor PE sessions they will be developing their core skills; agility, balance and coordination, with a professional coach.</p>
<p><b>Religious Education</b></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. Later on in the term the children will learn about the Christian celebration of Easter.</p>
<p><b>Other Information</b></p> 	<p>Last term the children did a really good job at learning their weekly spellings. Each week there were some really tricky words but each week they rose to the challenge! Please continue to support your child to learn their spellings this term and aim to listen to them read at least 3 times a week. Don't forget to sign their reading diary when they need a new book.</p> <p>Children will still need a pair of wellies and waterproofs in school throughout the week this term.</p> <p><b>It would be really helpful if your child could bring their belongings to school in a book bag rather than a backpack. The cloakroom is not big enough to cope with the size of bag coming into school at the moment whereas book bags can be stored in trays inside the classroom. This would make the cloakroom much easier for your children to manage.</b></p>

And finally...

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

Miss Lauren Dimelow