



Wrens' Newsletter Summer Term 2018

Our topic this term is '**Mini-beasts**'; we will be learning about the tiny animals which live in our local environment. We will visit the Great Fen project in Ramsey Heights and take part in the Big Butterfly Hunt.

Please find further details about each subject below.

<p>English</p> 	<p>We will be reading lots of books, stories and non-fiction texts, several linked to our topic of 'Mini-beasts'. We will use them as the context for our learning as well as having a go at writing our own stories. We will look at poems and learn some to recite by heart. We will learn some of the technical vocabulary that is linked to our topic.</p> <p>Over the first half-term, will continue to revisit and revise all of the graphemes we have learnt and practise these to help us with reading and spelling. We will look at how the same grapheme might have different sounds in different words(e.g. ea in 'head' and in 'hear'). We are learning to read the tricky words and high frequency words which Year 1 are expected to know. Later in the term we will concentrate particularly on applying phonics and other spelling patterns to write words accurately in our own work. We will be working on letter and number formation and remembering to use finger spaces, full stops and capital letters.</p> <p>In addition to reading at home through our structured scheme, we will be exploring a wide range of texts both in class and in small groups during guided reading sessions. We will be concentrating particularly developing and extending vocabulary and on the skill of understanding and explaining what we have read.</p>
<p>Maths</p> 	<p>Maths lessons take place every day and we also have regular, 'short and snappy' mental maths sessions. We will be working on an a Maths investigation where children will have an opportunity to develop the language needed to discuss and explain mathematical concepts. This term, we will focus on multiplication and division, focussing on multiples of 2, 5 and 10, and use arrays to count quickly. We will start to look at fractions and at place value within 100. Time and money are covered this term and we will continue to use our knowledge of measuring weight and volume to connect number to everyday situations. Once again, we will focus heavily on 'fluency' -using and applying the number skills children have learnt in a variety of contexts. We will continue to practise the number skills we have learnt by counting daily.</p>
<p>Science</p> 	<p>Our Science work this term will link closely to our mini-beast topic. The children will observe and investigate a variety of animals and their habitats. They will look at the things which living things need, making observations and recording their findings. They will learn the importance of green plants and about food chains. Later in the term they will investigate light, including shadows and reflections, and its link to the seasons.</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.</p>

<p>Geography & History</p> 	<p>We will name and locate the world's continents and oceans through work on investigating the migration of birds. We will look at how this is linked to weather patterns in different parts of the world and also how the changes in these human influences are affecting wildlife. This will link with our visit to the Great Fen where we will also consider historical events, placing these on a timeline and learn about some early conservationists.</p>
<p>Art & DT</p> 	<p>In Art, inspired by wildlife and the natural environment, we will be looking closely at pattern and texture and how we can create these using pastels, pencils and collage. We will be changing colours by adding black and white to them. We will use natural materials to create ephemeral art and textiles to make 3-d models of mini-beasts.</p>
<p>Music</p> 	<p>In Music, we will be learning some songs with an animal theme and may have a go at creating sound pictures. The children will take part in a weekly 'Singing Assembly'. We will also be learning songs in the classroom and continuing to learn Makaton, a sign language which supports spoken language through these.</p>
<p>PSHE</p> 	<p>PSHE lessons will focus on healthy and safer life styles. Children will learn about risks in the environment around them, including roads, water and the sun, and also the importance of e-safety. They will learn how to stay safe, what to do in an emergency and who can help them. Later in the term, linked with our Science work on life cycles, we will be looking at how babies change and grow, how they have changed since they were babies and about their responsibilities now that they are older.</p>
<p>Physical Education</p> 	<p>We have a variety of specialist coaches working with us in PE lessons this term to develop athletic and cricket skills. The children will be working on multi-skills activities and will take part in the whole school sports mornings.</p>
<p>Religious Education</p> 	<p>This term's focus is on Christianity where we will be looking at the role which the family plays in upholding Christian beliefs and traditions. Later on this term we will be looking at places special to us and sacred places of Christian worship. We will be talking to people to find out about their faith and the difference which it makes to them</p>
<p>Other Information</p> 	<p>Details of 'Home learning' are on the website. 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. This term, PE may be subject to change to fit in with outside coaching sessions and we will also take part in the monthly whole school Friday Sports. Please ensure your child brings their PE kit to school with them on a Monday and takes it home on a Friday so that they are able to participate fully in this important part of the curriculum.</p> <p>We start our learning after the first morning bell (which goes at 8.40am). Children are often involved in groups at this time and it's also a great time to consolidate learning and practise skills.</p>

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

Mrs Anne Wilkinson