



Kestrel Class

Spring Term Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers and Kestrels,

Happy New Year and welcome to the Spring term 2021, although it is certainly not the Spring term any of us hoped for! This letter outlines what Kestrel class will be learning this term. We hope you find the following information useful.

MATHS

We will be studying the following units in the Spring term:

- Perimeter and Area
- Multiplication and Division
- Fractions
- Decimals and Percentages

ENGLISH

Spring 1 – Fiction Genres – Modern short stories

In Spring 1, we will be reading modern short stories and completing reading, grammar and writing tasks from these stories. Our main focus will be developing different sentence structures. The expectation is that children will be able to recognise and use a variety of different sentences in their writing.

Spring 2 – Non-fiction texts

Writing activities in Spring 2 will be linked to our geography topic for this term and will include tourist guides, discussion texts and informal letters. We will continue to focus on different sentences and sentence starters to improve our writing, whilst continuing to use the advanced punctuation we learnt in the Autumn term.

Reading

Please continue to read regularly and try to keep a record of your reading and complete book reviews. This helps us to monitor your independent reading, as well as providing valuable opportunities for you to practise SPAG learning; last term we improved our punctuation and this term we are learning about sentence structures. Many of you regularly used this learning in your book reviews which shows good understanding as you are applying your learning without being directed to do so. It would be good for this to continue even when working remotely.

If you would like reading books from school, this can be arranged. Please email us on the class email address and we will sort this for you.

GEOGRAPHY

Our Geography topic for the Spring term is South America. In Spring 1, we will learn about the continent as a whole. In Spring 2, we will learn about the country of Brazil. We aim to cover the following learning:

- Continents and oceans of the world
- Lines of latitude and longitude and co-ordinates to locate places
- Hemispheres
- Time zones
- Countries of South America and their capital cities
- Human and physical features
- Using atlases and maps to locate countries and cities
- Explaining differences between human geography and physical geography
- Identifying similarities and differences between the human and physical geography of Brazil and the UK.

COMPUTING

In Computing, we will be moving on to Coding activities. We will also be using the internet for research linked to our South America topic.

SCIENCE

Spring 1 – Forces

In Spring 1, our Science unit focuses on forces - in particular gravity, friction, air resistance and water resistance. We will also look at the impact that gears, levers and pulleys have on forces.

Spring 2 - Animals including Humans

The next unit focuses on the changes that human beings experience as they develop to old age. We will be tackling some sensitive subjects including puberty and death (this links with the Year 5 Sex and Relationships Education curriculum) once we are all back in school.

RE

Continuing with our focus on Christianity and Sikhism, we will be investigating and researching teaching and authority within these religions. We will find out about the Holy books – Bible (New Testament and Jesus) and Guru Granth Sahib.

ART & DT

Throughout this term we will be working on our drawing skills and shading techniques. We will learn to draw realistic 3D shapes. We will also be linking our Art to the South America Geography topic – building a favela (junk modelling) as well as looking at the work of the Brazilian artist Romero Britto.

MUSIC We will be following the Oak National Academy KS2 unit on rhythm for the first half of this term before using Charanga (Norfolk Music Hub) to explore Hip Hop with 'The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air'.

PE 'Get set for PE' (PE suitable for home use during lockdown) followed by a dance unit.

PSHE We will be using the Go Givers materials to explore Bereavement and Prejudice as well as focusing on our values of resilience, perseverance, love, friendship, creativity and curiosity.

Mrs M. Willrich and Mrs J. Whittle Kestrel Class Teachers