



Spring 1 UKS2 Curriculum Newsletter



Dear Parents,

Welcome back and a Happy New Year to you all. We hope that you had a lovely break over Christmas and are ready to make 2023 a wonderful year! This is the work that the children will be covering over the following term in Y5/6:

Geography: The Water Cycle: Rivers, Coasts & Mountains

Water will be the focus of our geography learning for the whole Spring term. We will start this half term by looking at the features of a river – including a practical demonstration – before studying the rivers running from Rivington Pike. After a visit to see these water courses in person, we will consider the importance of river systems now and in history. We will finish the half term with an investigation into the water cycle, to consolidate all of our knowledge on river systems while understanding where precipitation comes from.

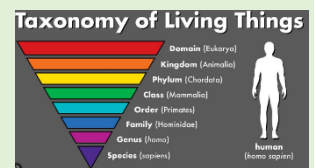
Art: Painting – Hokusai 'The Great Wave'



In Art this half term, we will be creating work based on the artist Katsushika Hokusai. Within our Art topic, we will be analysing and evaluating existing artwork created by Hokusai, whilst developing our art skills of drawing and painting through using a range of dry media to create lines, marks, patterns and shapes and experimenting with mixing colours, which will contribute to our final piece.

Science:

In Science this term, we will be learning why it is important to be able to classify all living things and how we can do this. Using their knowledge of the characteristics of different animal groups, children will classify a range of plants and animals and even discover more about the living organisms within our school grounds. Children will use and devise their own classification keys as well as becoming more familiar with Carl Linnaeus' classification system.



PE:

Attack and Defend, through a variety of team sports, is our Outdoor focus. For Indoor PE the children will be working towards a class performance in Dance.

PE days:

Doves: Monday and Friday
Kingfishers: Monday & Tuesday
Eagles: Thursday & Friday

RE:

Throughout this unit, we will be reading a selection of biblical texts, which allows us to explain connections between experiences of God and ideas of God, using theological terms. We will explore how Christians put their beliefs into practise in worship, before exploring how these ideas and teachings may make a difference in the world today.



PSHE:

This half term, children will be developing their understanding of how we can take care of our planet and what role they can play in this. They will also learn techniques to recognise biased information, including 'fake news'.

Computing:

Computer Science and coding is the focus of this half term. The pupils will be learning about algorithms, programs and sequences. They will use their knowledge to write and debugging code on a variety of platforms and even creating interactive games and quizzes.



Music:

The children will continue to learn to read staff notation. They will read and perform several rhythms in their drumming lessons and combine them in a performance for another class. Linking with our Water topic, the children will learn songs and raps about the Water Cycle. They will also learn to compose short pieces of music which represent water.



Please ensure your child is always fully prepared for the school day with their school bag, reading record & reading book, homework, and anything else they may have been asked to bring in.



Home Learning:

- Read at home for 15-20 minutes every day
- Practise spellings & x tables
- Complete one example from the half termly project list
- Tasks set in homework books



Home Reading: Please ensure that your child reads 5 times a week

Reading Challenge

5 x= Green
2/3/4= Yellow
0/1= Red



If your child achieves green for the week, they will be entered into a special prize draw! Only books that children take home from school will go towards the reading challenge – either the home reader or a book from the 100 Book Challenge. This will ensure that your child is reading books appropriate for their ability.

Twitter Pages

Each class has a Twitter page which is updated regularly. You can see all the exciting things we have been getting up to in school and how hard the children are working. Please follow us to keep updated!

@GatesDoves
@GatesKingfishers
@GatesEagles



Seesaw is an app we use to track your child's learning and progress throughout the year. We will send out additional information on how you can view your children's work as well as how to use this app to share WOW moments from home with us in school.