



Spring 1

UKS2 Curriculum Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back after the Christmas break, we hope that you all had a restful two weeks together. We are now into Spring term and have lots more exciting learning planned for your child. This is the work that the children will be covering over the following term in Year 5 and 6:

Geography: This term in Geography, children will be learning all about South America and Brazil. The unit will start with a strong emphasis on map work and locational knowledge with children also learning how to use longitude and latitude. As well as this, they will learn about the different time zones in the world, and how some countries have different time zones within themselves. Children will also learn about the diverse landscape of Brazil and the different ecosystems and biomes that exist there. They will also study the different climates in Brazil, distinguishing between climate and weather, and draw their own climate graphs from data sets.



Art: South American artist Beatriz Milhazes will be the inspiration for our South American collages this half term. We will study and evaluate her work before practising some of the techniques needed for our final piece. Vibrant collages will be created. After this, children will experiment creating collographs using a range of materials and use them to create prints using ink/paint. Their favourite designs will be printed onto the collage to create their final design

Science: This term's unit is 'Material Properties'. We will be looking at the properties of solids, liquids and gases before grouping together everyday materials based on their properties. We will be carrying out experiments and enquiries to test which materials are best for certain uses – for example, which materials will make the best insulator of heat. Children will analyse data and plan further follow up experiments from this, refining their evaluation skills in the process.

PE: For outdoor PE, the children are developing their Sending & Receiving skills using different equipment. For Indoor PE, the children will be working towards a class performance in Dance.

PE days:

Doves: Wednesday & Friday

Kingfishers: Monday & Wednesday

Eagles: Monday & Friday

RE: In RE, we will be answering the question, "Why do Hindus try to be good?". Children will explore religious texts to help to understand the reasons for religious beliefs. There will be a particular focus on the beliefs: Samsara, Karma and Dharma with children understanding how this affects the way that someone might live their life. Towards the end of the unit, we will be learning about Ghandi and the example he sets about how to live.



PSHE: In PSHE this term we will be learning about 'Living in the Wider World'. This will include the topics of Diversity and Diverse Communities in the UK; Stereotypes, Prejudice; Using Money and the use Social Media.



Computing: This term in computing we will be focusing on computer science. We will learn how to use logical reasoning to explain how simple algorithms work. Consequently, we will write programs to create our own interactive games using 'Spheros'.

Music: In Music, we will continue to work with glockenspiels. They will develop their understanding of C, D, E and F and 1, 2 and 4 beat notes and rests on the glockenspiel. In addition to this, they will learn the new note G and use notation skills to play new rhythms on the glockenspiels.



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
- Practice spellings
- Learn times tables
- Create one example from the half termly project list



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.

