



# P.P.S. Elm Class

April 2018  
Summer Term

## Awesome Andes and What makes Britain Great?

Dear Parents

Welcome back to the summer term. We hope you had an eggs-cellent Easter and are ready for the summer term. For the first few weeks of the term we will be focussing on the Andes and comparing this with Italy. We will then move onto 'What makes Britain Great?' looking at the Geography of the United Kingdom, as well as delving into modern culture, focussing on the art of Banksy and Norman Foster. Finally, we will be immersing ourselves in the Smashing Saxons and Vicious Vikings, looking at the history of the time and creating our own catapults.

In Science, we will be finishing our unit on materials and their properties. We will then be focussing on the human body and how this changes over our life. The children will create a timeline of human life and will compare our gestation period, to that of other animals. This will also be closely linked to our work in Sex and Relationship Education, which focuses on puberty and where babies come from.

Our PE lessons will take place on Tuesdays and Wednesday. In PE, children will be taking part in dance. They will also take part in competitive invasions games, such as tag rugby and football.

Our Geography focus the beginning of the term will be the Andes. Children will name and locate cities and regions and learn about latitude and longitude. They will

learn how the climate affects the country in terms of the economy and how the land is used. Children will become more confident reading and using a variety of different maps.

Computing lessons. The children will continue to be bloggers across this term. They will then become cryptographers, looking at how code has been used at various different points through history to transmit and send messages. They will then link this into how the internet has transformed our way of communicating. Our final unit will look at control output and design, through using coding programmes such as Kodu and Scratch..

In History the children will learn about the lives of the Vikings and Saxons. They will examine the chronology of the Anglo-Saxons & Vikings, including: Roman withdrawal from Britain, the Scots invasion and the Viking invasion. They will also have the chance to be part of an encampment, exploring what life was like for these people.

In Design and Technology the children will have the chance to create their own catapult, looking at the designs of those used by the Saxons and Vikings.

Our Art this term will focus initially on creating fairy houses and gardens, to be entered into the Petworth Art festival. We will then focus on modern British Artists, such as Norman Foster and Banksy, where the pupils will be able to create their own artist inspired art work.

This is just an outline of what the children will be exploring during this topic. We are using these newsletters to give you information about your child's education as this will replace the foundation subjects comments on the annual report.

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## Smashing Saxons and the Vicious Vikings!

Our RE lessons the Bible Explorers team will be visiting our class every week and teaching us all about the Old Testament. Following this, children will be learning how faith is explored through the Arts e.g. music, dance, art etc.

During music, children will be studying traditional music from South America. They will learn songs and use syncopated rhythms into their improvisations and compositions. Later, they will listen to music of British composers using appropriate musical vocabulary to describe and compare each piece.

Of course, English and Maths will be taught on a daily basis and will often be linked to the topic areas listed above. If Spellings will follow the National Curriculum patterns along with two words from the statutory list. Timetables will be tested through our five minute challenge on a Monday and Wednesday and spellings will be tested on a Tuesday.

We will be reading the children's novel 'Wonder' novel by R.J Palacio. As we listen to the story we will discuss the author's use of language for effect, use our inference skills to help us predict what might happen next and develop a deeper understating of how plot lines develop. We will also have opportunities to read Paddington Bear stories in preparation for writing our own stories. In addition, we will be studying poems, short stories and non-fiction texts for enjoyment and to develop our comprehension skills.

Before starting the next unit the children will reinforce their learning about colours, describing a beach scene by Degas using the vocabulary they have learnt.

Les quatre saisons

In this unit children learn to describe seasons using a poem and the music from Vivaldi's 'The Four Seasons'. They also learn to talk about what the weather was like. The children will work on an end-of-unit performance to consolidate and celebrate their learning.

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Homework will continue to be set weekly with a renewed focus on using Lexia and Mathletics at home, to support your child's learning.

We look forward to working with you and your children. If you would like any additional information about this term's learning please don't hesitate to ask me.

Tim Parsons and Laura Sandon-Webb

### Key dates for you diary

2<sup>nd</sup> May – SRE evening for year 5 and 6  
11<sup>th</sup> May – Fun maths at MRC  
21<sup>st</sup> May – Art week and Prayer space week  
4<sup>th</sup> June- INSET day  
23<sup>rd</sup> June – Summer fair  
29<sup>th</sup> June – Christchurch Streatham visiting year 5  
12<sup>th</sup> July – Connect with the countryside day