

Elm class Spring term 2017

Welcome back to a new term! We hope you had a great Christmas break. We are looking forward to an exciting term ahead! Attached is an outline of the learning opportunities planned for your child this term.



## Mathematics

The children will have a weekly session on word problem solving, which will be linked to the main maths theme worked on that week and one on practising arithmetic. During these sessions they will revisit mental addition and subtraction, number and place value. They will continue to learn the written methods.

The children will then move on to multiplication and division and understanding the inverse operation. They will continue to learn and practise the written method. In other sessions the children will work on fractions, decimals and percentages. In measures the children will learn to calculate the perimeter of rectilinear shapes and will calculate and compare area. In geometry the children will focus on position and direction.



## English

In Literacy, we will be studying the works of E.B White with a particular focus on Charlotte's Web. We will use parts of the story to write instructions and we will then move on to writing diary entries from the point of view of one of the characters. The children will also write an information text about spiders.

We will also be finding out about biographies of different people but in particular Vincent Van Gogh and writing our own based on our research. We will develop our editing skills and practise grammar and vocabulary appropriate for biographies.

During the second half of the term, as part of the topic on Italy and the Andes, we will develop the skills to create a persuasive leaflet. In poetry, the children will study the Highwayman by Alfred Noyes. Children will also report and write about different events happening in and out of school.

In all writing task the children will focus on their planning, editing and redrafting skills and look carefully at spelling and grammatical conventions.

## Science

In Science we will start the term investigating human growth and changes, and finding out about puberty. We will look at how different animals grow and develop and think about how this might relate to their size, life span or whether they are rare or endangered.

The second half term will be looking further at living things, lifecycles and habitats and we will explore how these are all interrelated. This will overlap with our geography topic and habitat work on Italy and the Andes.

As part of a national BBC initiative 'Terrific Scientific' we will be exploring how we are unique and taking part in the 'Terrific Tasters' investigation and contributing our results and data to the national map to discover which parts of the UK have 'Super Tasters'.



## Computing



This term our computing work is all about Art! We will be developing our skills using a variety of software to create patterns and tessellations and look at artists such as Escher. We will focus on "Inkscape" and look at how it can be used in design and illustrations.

During the term we will continue to explore e-safety and how to use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly.

## R.E.

We will look further into what it means to be a Muslim and consider how their beliefs are similar and different to Christianity. We will explore the meaning of the 'Five Pillars of Islam' and whether these are in anyway reflected in our own beliefs.



The second half of the term will be very active as the 'Bible Explorers' will be leading the class through a journey of the Bible using drama, tableau and rhyme.

## French

This term in French, the children will start to learn the alphabet in French. The theme for the term will be "Notre école" (Our school). Through this topic, the children will learn to describe a route to school using simple direction, the names of the different place in town and simple directions. They will also be encouraged to use the phrase "il y a..." (There is /there are).



## P.E.

As part of their PE sessions the children will be taught about general fitness and developing their knowledge of the importance of warm ups, raising your heart rate and focus as part of a training routine.

The children will also practise the skills required to play invasion games (netball) and will focus on ball handling skills, passing and receiving as well as shooting and scoring. They will also apply their skills during mini tournaments within the class.



**Topics :** Vincent van Gogh (1<sup>st</sup> half)

Italy and the Andes: a comparison (2<sup>nd</sup> half)

In this unit of work the children will find out more the life and work of Vincent van Gogh. They will discover and study different pieces of art and the story behind them. They will also learn the different artistic techniques used and will reproduce different pieces in their own style.

During the second half of the term, the children will learn about Italy and will compare this country with the Andes. The children will learn about the geography, way of life and traditions in these two very different parts of the world; and will compare them through a variety of resources and experiences.

As a school we really value the help and support our parents offer and we are keen to continue to develop these home-school links.

Please encourage your child to read at home as often as possible, as a guide it is suggested that they read for around fifteen minutes each evening. Your child will also receive spellings and times tables to practise at home. It is vital your child practises these as they will support their learning and progress at school. Within Year 5 the children will also be given a piece of maths and a reading comprehension to complete every week.