



P.P.S. Elm Class

April 2019
Summer Term

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 term ahead.

For the first few half of the term we will be focussing on 'What makes Britain Great?' looking at the Geography of the United Kingdom, as well as delving into modern culture, focussing on the architecture of 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 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 P.E. lessons take place on Monday and Thursday. In P.E., the children will be learning how to play stoolball and cricket.

Our Geography focus at the beginning of the

term will be the United Kingdom. The children will name and locate cities and regions and learn about latitude and longitude. They will learn how the climate affects the country, the impact of the economy and how the land is used. Children will become more confident reading and using a variety of different maps.

During Computing lessons the children will continue to be bloggers across this term. To start the term they will be working on using TinkerCAD to further develop their designing skills and build upon their knowledge of computer-aided design software. 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.

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.

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 Art this term will focus initially on creating our own Angel pictures, linked to our work on Skellig. The children will have the chance to use different pencil techniques to create their own image. We will then focus the modern British architecture of Norman Foster, where the pupils will be able to create their own building design.

Our R.E. lessons will focus on learning how faith is explored through the Arts e.g. music, dance, art etc.

During Music, children will be studying British composers such as Michael Nyman, Queen and Edward Elgar. They will describe the pieces of music and use some of the composers' ideas into their own compositions.

In French the children will reinforce their learning about colours, describing a beach scene by Degas. They will then move onto 'Les Quatre Saisons', describing Vivaldi's music to talk about the weather. The children will work on an end of unit performance to celebrate and consolidate their learning.

Of course, English and Maths will be taught on a daily basis and will often be linked to the topic areas listed above. 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 Thursday and Friday and spellings will be tested on a Tuesday.

We will be reading the children's novel 'Skellig' by David Almond. 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 understanding of how plot lines develop. In addition, we will be studying poems, short stories and non-fiction texts for enjoyment and to develop our comprehension skills.

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 subject's comments on the annual report.

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

We continue to look forward to working with you and your children. If you would like any additional information about this term's learning please do not hesitate to ask us.

Tim Parsons and Laura Sandon-Webb

Key dates for you diary

1st May – SRE evening for year 5 and 6
10th May – Fun maths at MRC
3rd June- INSET day
29th June – Summer fair
27th June - Big Bang Science trip
10th and 11th July—Darwin Rocks!
11th July – Connect with the countryside day