



# Spring Term 2019

Beech Class Year 3

This term we have already begun our exploration into the cold... finding out about Polar explorers.

We came back to school to find someone had left a backpack in the classroom. Upon investigating, we found it must belong to an explorer, due to all the items that were found inside the bag.

We even found a poster asking for volunteers to sign up as explorers. Luckily everyone was keen to take on the challenge.

In **P.E.** we shall be focusing on invasion games, with football as our focus sport. After half term, this changes to net and ball games, with tennis, and indoors doing gymnastics.

In **music**, along with some learning about the style of reggae and after half term, songs about kindness and respect, we have the pleasure of whole class musical instrument learning the cello.

## Poles Apart

### Explorers

In **geography**, we will be using maps to locate our destination and plan our routes to the North and South Poles. We will learn where the equator is and what is important about its position on the world map. We will find out what it is like to be in a polar climate. Just how cold is it? Does anything grow there? What animals might we meet there?

To help us navigate, we need to learn how to use a compass and directions on a compass.

An historical aspect of our learning this term is to find out about some important polar explorers, particularly from the early 20th century, and the impact they had on polar exploration. We have begun to learn about Shackleton, Scott and Amundsen.

Our knowledge will be presented through our literacy focus on newspapers and diaries, using Scott's polar diary as inspiration.

### Forces

Scientifically, forces is important in learning for our expedition. We will find out about different forces, including pushes and pulls, the effect of different surfaces on a force, and how magnets work.

We will be experimenting, predicting, investigating and drawing conclusions to find answers to our questions. Obviously there will be lots of fun as all of this involves toy cars, boats and maybe a sled!

In **computing**, we will learn how we can use publisher to communicate information, drawing text boxes, changing font size, style and colour. Also, finding out how we can add pictures to illustrate our information.

As we will be using the internet, e-safety also features, knowing how to keep safe on the internet. In addition we will be creating some animations along the polar exploration theme.

**Artistically**, using water-colours, we will find out what techniques can be used to create different effects for polar landscapes. Is it all simply white? The Northern lights enables us to explore a variety of colour washes too.

In **French**, Mrs Soal will be teaching the months of the year, counting in the teens, and asking/ saying when your birthday is.

**Maths and English** lessons take place daily. Maths continues reinforcing our understanding of multiplication, before moving onto using money and handling data.

# Artistic Impressions

## A mechanism for exploration

The second half of this term our focus shifts slightly to continuing to learn about explorers, but also artistic explorers, who have made an impression on the world of art.

Using a selection of artists, such as Kandinsky and Miro, Picasso and Matisse, we will look at art as a journey of exploration. Hopefully our masterpieces will leave an impression on all of you!

We aim to display these masterpieces in a class art gallery.



Matisse

Explorers need a method of travel, and in **design and technology**, we will be designing and making wind-up boats. Our boats will be propelled across the water using a suitable mechanism. We will also link this learning into our science on the forces required to make the boat move.

In **computing**, we will learn how we can use PowerPoint to present our learning to an audience. The children will be given the opportunity to work with their peers in creating presentations, showing the skills they have learned in creating a PowerPoint and their new knowledge about a famous artist.

**Maths:** we will be measuring length and perimeter. Finally ending the term with a focus on fractions.

In **English** lessons, we will be writing autobiographies, and be creative with some poetry writing.

Performance poetry also features, so the children need to make sure they are practising their reading, complete with expression.

In **French**, Mrs Soal will be teaching the names of the parts of the body and colours.

### Religious Education

We shall be continuing our learning about Islamic Rights of Passage before a Christianity focus on People of God, the covenant and what the Bible teaches us. After half term, we will return to the Islamic faith to look at Muslim celebrations and how they compare to the celebrations in Christianity.

Please do not hesitate to pop into the classroom if you have any questions. If anyone has a member of the family who has travelled to a polar region or explored a remote area of the world or even climbed a mountain, we would love to invite you in to talk about your experiences.

Mrs McGrath