

Our topic for this half term is 'Who was Nelson Mandela?'

This is a topic based around Nelson Mandela. In this topic, children learn about South Africa, apartheid and how Nelson Mandela improved the lives of black people. Starting with apartheid, they look at what happened in South Africa at the time, before finally exploring the life of Nelson Mandela. We will also research about why South Africa is called the Rainbow country and how Tilly Willis captures the beauty of the country.

English writing

Children will have the opportunity to write diaries, letters, biographies (about Nelson Mandela) and a leaflet about South Africa. They will also debate whether slavery is right or wrong. Our English work will be linked to our book, which relates to our topic. This will help the children to deepen their understanding. This half term our book is 'Journey to Jo'burg'.

Non-Fiction

Pupils will be studying different elements of SPAG (spelling, punctuation and grammar.) This will help to raise the level of their writing. The children will be developing their skills of reading for information during guided reading and reading activities. We will also be reading non-fiction books about South Africa to improve our skimming and scanning techniques.

Learning Behaviours

All children at our school have a right to learn and reach their full potential. To encourage our children to continue developing the right attitude towards learning there are systems in place including rewards and sanctions. We always aim to focus on praising the positive behaviour demonstrated. Our dojo system is an effective method of promoting positive behaviour. We are continuing with rewarding children who have behaved well all week and have tried their best with golden time on a Friday afternoon. School cinema treats will continue to happen each term for those children who receive at least 70% positive dojos.

Maths

This term we will continue to follow the maths mastery scheme, focussing on:

Multiplication and division

Solve problems using known facts, knowledge of factors, primes, squares and cubes and combinations of operations.

Perimeter and area

Calculate and compare the perimeter and area; estimate areas of non-rectilinear shapes.

Scientific and technological understanding

Children will be studying a topic called 'Living things and their habitats'. We will be looking at how plants reproduce. We will also learn about different types of mammals and their different life cycles, making life cycle wheels to present their learning. Furthermore, they will explore metamorphosis in insects and amphibians, comparing their life cycles.

During this topic we will be discussing sexual and asexual reproduction. If you wish to discuss this topic with me, prior to delivery, then please pop in.

History

This term will be researching Nelson Mandela and learning about his life and how he changed the lives of black people. We will also be asking the question 'Why should we be ashamed of slavery?' and look at what part Britain took in this.

Geography

This term we will be learning about the world: Continents, rivers, mountains and capital cities of Europe. We will then move on to key aspects of the UK such as the major cities, and rivers.

Art and design

Children will be looking at the work of Tilly Willis, an South African artist. We will look at how she has used colour and lines to capture the beauty of South Africa.

Citizenship

The **Junior Citizen Scheme** is a multi agency partnership initiative aimed at giving children the skills to deal with a wide range of emergency situations, and to enable them to make a valued contribution to their local community through good **citizenship** while at the same time encouraging a sense of community.

Family Learning Session

We will be having an art workshops where we will create Tilly Willis inspired art.

*** Reminders ***

PE kits

Each week your child will participate in a PE session. Children need to bring PE kits to school on Wednesday and Thursday. .

The correct PE kit of white t-shirt and black shorts is expected along with appropriate footwear.

All children must have appropriate PE kit and should not wear any jewellery including earrings.

School times

The bell rings at 8:55 and teachers will meet the children in the playground. The children begin the day with morning activities that give them the opportunity to consolidate their learning in all areas of the curriculum.

The end of the school is 3:15pm. Gates are opened at approximately 3:10pm.

Morning session: 9 am-12:15pm
Afternoon session 1.15pm-3.15pm

Homework

Homework is given out to all children on a Friday and will need to be handed in by the following Friday.

Please can your child also read at home at least three times a week and make sure they bring their planner each day to school with them—they will be **rewarded with dojo's** for every time they read, which they can spend at the school shop.

Spellings will be given out on a Friday for your child to learn ready for a test the following Friday.

School Contact Details

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Headteacher: Mrs P. Belnavis
Deputy Head teacher: Mr T. Purdy

If you need to have a word with your child's teacher please arrange an appointment after school when they will be happy to discuss your questions or concerns.



**Class 8
Curriculum Newsletter**

Autumn Term Two

2019