



Different Places, Different Lives

Overview: This half term, our topic is 'Different Places, Different Lives' and children will build on their geographical knowledge of the United Kingdom and their own locality by comparing Dubai with the New Forest. They will re-visit and develop further locational and place knowledge to compare and contrast the two areas.

Writing: Children will begin their new learning journey by revisiting prior learning to practise using a range of different sentences effectively within their writing (simple, compound and complex sentences). They will revisit their learning from Year 1 to identify what nouns are and why they are used within sentences. The children will also revisit identifying adjectives and learn how to use them effectively to form expanded noun phrases. They will explore how this gives their audience more description and makes their writing more interesting to the reader.

Phonics/Reading/Spelling: Some children will continue to access the Little Wandle programme until they are ready to begin the fluency programme. The fluency books are longer and each contain six chapters. Within each session, children practise reading fluently, with expression and answer comprehension questions. Children continue to read their phonetically decodable book three times a week and each book will take two weeks to complete. Alongside this, children will begin the 'Little Wandle Spelling Programme' where they will use their Phase 5 knowledge to support them in spelling words accurately.

Maths: Children will continue their maths learning to focus on addition, subtraction and multiplication. They will learn that addition and multiplication is commutative (can be done in any order) and subtraction is not. Children will continue to learn to use concrete resources, pictorial representations and a range of mental strategies to add and subtract numbers. They will learn to use multiplication facts for the two, five and ten times tables to solve problems. They will explore a range of strategies to solve multiplication problems efficiently.

Geography: Children will revisit what a geographer is and how they develop knowledge about the world. They will build on their geographical knowledge of the United Kingdom and their own locality to learn about the human and physical geography of Dubai. They will use their learning to identify similarities and differences between the two areas, including the weather.

RHE/SMSC: Children will think about and explore life in the wider world and specifically focus on the different jobs people choose to do. The children will be encouraged to make links with curriculum areas and explore the different jobs this knowledge may support for future career aspirations. Children will also make links with their computing learning to explore the role technology plays in the digital world we live in.

Computing: Children will explore the different types of technology we have in the world around us and identify the technological world we are immersed in. They will identify technology beyond computers and begin to explore how technology can be used carefully; always considering online safety rules.

RE: Our key concept for this half term is 'Stories' and children will explore stories from the Christian, Jewish and Sikh faith. Children will discuss what makes a good story and how they can make people feel. They will then explore how stories are used within religious communities and the importance of them.

PE: Children will continue to focus on gymnastics this half term and will be focusing on developing their balancing skills. They will explore which parts of the body they can balance on and also explore different jumps. They will consider how to keep themselves safe when performing both on and off the apparatus.

Art: Building on their artist knowledge and skills, children will demonstrate their understanding of drawing tools and selecting them with care for a specific purpose. Children will learn about tone and how this can be used within their artwork. Children will talk about line and tone and predict results, demonstrating their knowledge of artistic skills.

Music: Children will visit the Orchestra this half term to enhance their musical knowledge and experiences. They will focus on timbre as they identify the way sounds are made e.g. vocalised, shaken, struck, scraped, plucked, strummed or blown. They will also explore the texture of musical pieces; recognising and responding to the different layers of sounds used.

Science: Children will learn about everyday materials this term. They will name different materials and identify their properties. Children will apply their learning by selecting appropriate materials based on their properties for a specific purpose. Alongside this, the children will be revisiting their knowledge of plants and will start to explore what they need to grow, specifically seeds.

Hiltingbury Heroes: This half term, children will focus on the skills of Ellie Elephant as they develop their teamwork skills. Children will be encouraged to develop skills to effectively work with others and the qualities that makes a team work well.



Home Learning: As children continue Year 2, please encourage them to build on their prior learning and make connections with new knowledge. Please support this through discussions at home, as this helps them to draw on prior knowledge and make links to assist with their long term memory. Alongside this, please try to read with your child daily. Our expectation is that you share a book with your child at least three times a week and record this in their reading record diary. We have also put some other ideas below should you wish to supplement your child’s learning further.

- Identify the different forms of Information Technology you have at home. What is each device used for and how does it help you?
- Name the seven continents and five oceans. Identify them on a world map. Practise locating Dubai and the UK on a world map. Create a fact file about Dubai.
- Explore different materials around the house. Think about what the materials are used for. Encourage your child to talk about what materials are best suited for different purposes e.g. would we make a greenhouse out of just wood? Why?
- Practise learning multiplication facts for the two, five and ten times tables.
- Practise solving addition, subtraction and multiplication problems in real life situations at home.
- Encourage your child to write as much as possible at home. Ensure they are accurately punctuating sentences.

Reminders and Key Dates:

Tuesday 6th January – Inset Day
 Friday 24th January - Year 2 Dodgeball Competition
 3rd – 7th February – Chinese New Year Celebrations
 17th – 21st February – Half Term

Thursday 30th January – Trip to the Orchestra
 Wednesday 4th February – Perform drama workshop
 12th and 13th February – Parents evening