

'Incredible Environments'

Overview: This half term, our topic is 'Incredible Environments'. The children will start to learn about the different countries in the UK and then about the weather patterns in the UK. They will learn to discuss the similarities and differences between places and seasons. Our science curriculum will link closely with the geography as the children will learn more about the seasons and seasonal change. They will complete experiments to record temperatures in their school environment.

Writing: Children will build on from their prior learning and they will revisit their learning of what a sentence is and practise accurately punctuating them with a capital letter and full stop. The 'big idea' for the spring term is 'learning how to use conjunctions and how to use a range of sentence structures effectively'. In the first few days the children will revisit what adjectives, nouns and proper nouns are. They will then learn, practise and apply the knowledge that 'and' can be used to join words, nouns, verbs and adjectives. They will learn what a 'clause' is and that different conjunctions have different meanings. The children need to know that the conjunction 'and' is used to join two related clauses to add more information. The children are continuing to develop the skill of saying their sentences out loud before writing them down, adding in capital letters, full stops and finger spaces in order to give the intended meaning.

Reading: The children will continue the Spring 1 Little Wandle programme where the children are introduced to the alternative graphemes included with Phase 5 to support their fluency when reading. These include digraphs such as, wh, oe, le, ve, ey, ph, ce and se. Children will continue to read their phonetically decodable book three times a week and will answer questions about the text. Alongside this, children will also have a range of opportunities through whole class guided reading sessions to explore a range of texts that provide them with opportunities to predict, infer, discuss and develop their vocabulary.

Maths: The children begin Year 1 building on their place value knowledge of 2 digit numbers to 20. The children will learn to explain and deepen their learning to show their understanding. They will learn that numbers can also be written in words. The children will learn about the operations of addition and subtraction and the importance of their knowledge of number bonds to 10 and 20 and apply what they have learnt by solving problems. The children learn the term 'difference' and how this relates to their understanding of subtraction.

Geography: The children will learn about the different countries that make up the United Kingdom. They will also learn about the word 'temperature' and how to measure the air temperature with a thermometer. During the half term the children will investigate daily and seasonal weather patterns and find out where in the school the hottest and coldest places are. They will continue to extend their knowledge of mapping skills to show their results to inform others. The children will learn what the word 'climate' means and how to measure the changes in weather using a class weather diary. During the half term the children will learn that different countries have different weather patterns within the United Kingdom.

Computing: The children will continue to learn the importance of online safety. They will learn how to manage online information and how to find information using digital technologies. The children will need to know that they can encounter a range of things online and that some information cannot be trusted or may not be real. We will also teach them to get help from a trusted adult if they see or encounter online content that makes them uncomfortable or sad. During the half term they will also be learning about data and databases. The children will learn how computers can help to group information together to make it easier to gain information. The children will learn that technology can be used to represent data in different ways such as pictograms, tables and help sort information.

RE: Children will deepen their knowledge and understanding of the 'big idea' 'Specialness, particularly special clothes. The unit will start by the children having a 'special clothes day'. The children will learn how to communicate why their clothes are special to them. The children will also discuss how they feel when wearing their special clothes. The children will learn more about the clothes that people wear for their jobs and how they help them. They will then learn more about the Sikhi faith and in particular the special clothes e.g. the 5 Ks that are worn. They will learn to discuss why these clothes are significant to Sikhs and their importance. We would love to involve our school community so please chat to Mrs Ford if you would like to be involved.

PE: Children will have two PE sessions each week to support their physical development, knowledge and skills. This will start with gymnastics and invasion games throughout the spring term. The children will learn more about how to use the space, show different balances, exploring different ways of moving over, under and through different pieces of different levelled apparatus. During the R&R sessions the children will be learning invasion skills within short games such as hockey etc.

Art: Building on their artistic knowledge and skills from the Autumn Term and Year R, children will demonstrate their understanding of line, shape and colour. The children will build their knowledge of what an artist is and then what a sculptor is too. We will look closely at the sculptures by the American sculptor David Roger. The children will learn the meaning of the words 'texture' and 'form'. This half term the 'big idea' is mastering techniques so the children will learn to join materials together to effectively make a sculpture. They will start to sort materials together for different purposes and then use this knowledge when making their paper mache sculpture.

Music: Children will learn to accurately perform, respond to and recognise short and long sounds to steady beats that they have heard in music. They will learn what a 'chant' is and create a class chant that show different sound effects for the 'cold as ice' theme. The children will also learn about how to show the beginning, middle and end in musical pieces. They will learn about what an introduction is to the music and that there are repetitive rhythms or sounds to make up a piece of music. The children will create simple graphic score using untuned and tuned percussion. They will learn to develop greater control when using these instruments.

Science: The children begin with a focus on seasonal changes by looking closely for signs of Winter. They will focus on weather, trees and the length of daylight hours. Children will learn to name common plants and use the terms deciduous and evergreen when observing trees.

RHE/SMSC: Children will learn about the importance of washing their hands, brushing their teeth and keeping clean and healthy. They will learn how to help their class and wider community to keep safe and healthy. We will discuss why hygiene is very important and how simple hygiene rules allow no germs to be spread. The children will learn how medicines play their part in keeping us healthy as well as vaccinations and immunisations. The children will learn that it is important that only trusted adults can give medicines and that it is important to know who can help them to stay healthy.

Hiltingbury Heroes: This half term, children will continue to focus on the skills of Sidney Gorilla as they develop their independent researching skills, particularly when using the computer. Children will be supported to develop these skills through learning how to find information in nonfiction books and how to search using the child friendly websites.



Home Learning: We will encourage the children to build on their learning from Year R and make connections. 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.

- Encourage children to write (little and often) at home as frequently as possible. This could be a list, card, letter, diary, weather report. We love seeing the writing they have done at home. Encourage them to use the correct tricky word spellings.
- Ensure you are encouraging your child to accurately punctuate all sentences with a capital letter, finger spaces and a full stop.
- Encourage your child to explain how many tens and ones are in a 2 digit number to 20 or 50.
- Practise talking about the passing of time, the days of the week, months of the year and seasons.
- Use books and internet search engines, to find pictures and key information about different weathers around the UK or world. Talk about the 4 countries of the UK and help them name them on a map, England, Northern Ireland, Wales and Scotland.
- Encourage your child to use the terms 'deciduous and evergreen' when discussing and naming trees and how they change or not in the season of winter.

Reminders and Key Dates:

Monday 8th January – Year 1 Special Clothes day

Wednesday 10th January – Beauty and the Beast performance day

5th- 9th February – Chinese New Year Celebrations

12th – 16th February – Half Term