

Eyrie Newsletter  
Summer Term 2015

# Under the Sea



Our topic this term is called "Under the Sea" The main focus of the topic is Oceans and sea and the plant, animals and ship wrecks that can be found there. We will learn about the locations and names of the oceans and the largest seas. . We will look at the creatures that live there and the history of some of the ships that lie on the sea bed. Our main text for this term is Kesuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo.

### Literacy

As always, the literacy work we cover will relate closely to the theme of our topic. We will start this term with a focus on poetry. After finding our classroom coral reef covered in rubbish we will look at persuasive writing and create persuasive writing to save the real coral reefs. We will then move on to look in detail at Kensuke's Kingdom. The children will be looking closely at the characters and how Michael would be feeling travelling on his own. We will also be using lots of the different types of writing we have looked at this year in our independent activities.

We will continue with our development of grammatical understanding of the way in which sentences are constructed. Over the term we will continue to learn and consolidate spelling patterns.

### Numeracy

The concepts covered this term will build on the work which was covered last term.

The concepts we will be covering this term are:

- Place value of decimals - to 2 decimal places and beyond
- Negative numbers - ordering and finding the difference between values
- Consolidating our knowledge of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division - including decimals
- Begin to understand and use simple formulae
- Understand the terms - prime numbers, factors and square numbers
- Continue to develop our understanding of the properties of 2D and 3D shapes including using the terms parallel and perpendicular
- Use coordinates to describe the positions of shapes on a grid and predict coordinates of missing corners
- Be able to identify the mean, median and mode
- Construct bar and line graphs and interpret pie charts
- Convert between different metric units using decimals to 2 decimal places and beyond
- Identify where a shape will be after it is translated (moved), rotated or reflected
- Use protractors to measure and draw angles in a range of shapes
- Understand the value of fractions, order fractions and simplify by cancelling common factors
- Solve problems involving direct proportion
- Solve problems which involve fractions.

As in previous terms, the children will be taught skills during the morning and will be given some independent activities during the afternoon sessions, which will allow them to apply their knowledge from the morning to a given problem or puzzle.

### Science

Our science will relate to the topic and will cover:

- \*Revision of the states of matter, solids, liquids and gases and then move onto relate this to solubility, conductivity and how these can be used to separate materials.
- \* Irreversible and reversible changes in states of matter - including heating, burning and rusting.
- \*The water cycle
- \*Forces including, gravity, air resistance, water resistance and opposing forces.

### ICT

This term we are going to develop our knowledge of scratch and will use this to design a simple table tennis game which can be played on the computer. As in other terms we will continue to build on our knowledge of how to safely use the computers, email and the Internet, considering the validity of internet sites. The children will use their skills to create multimedia presentations to persuade their audience of a point of view.

### History

Through the ship wrecks the children will come across on the sea bed, we will be learning about life in the Vikings period and the boats used to invade Britain as well as the Titanic and how this relates to the knowledge they already have of the early 1900s.

### Geography

We will be continuing to develop our map skills locating the oceans and seas of the world. We will identify where coral reefs can be found and how their location relates to the tropics and equator. We will learn about how the weather as sea can change quickly and how this can make sailing hard for people like Ellen Macarthur.

### Art and Design Technology

The children will be mixing colours to create artwork based on the sea. They will be making boats considering the shapes which are best to enable their boat to float.

### Music

During the term we will be exploring the Carnival of the animals, more specifically the aquarium. Considering how Camille Saint-Saëns's choice of instrument suggest the animals he is portraying. We will also learn some sea shanties and their use at sea.

### Religious Education

During our RE lessons we will be learning about Jesus as a leader. This will include looking at some stories from the Bible and how Christians believe he fulfills this role.

### Physical Education

As before, Eyrie's PE lessons will be on Tuesdays, Fridays and alternating Mondays. The children will be focusing on summer sports this term, as well as our preparation for the maypole dancing. The lesson on Tuesday will be taught by Mr Cherry and supported by Mrs Gibbs and Friday's lesson by Mr Canning supported by Mrs Sinka. Miss Richardson will be teaching every other Monday supported by myself. There will also be swimming every Friday for some year 5 and 6 with either Mrs Prewer or Miss White. The children need to make sure they have a complete change of clothes in their PE kits including a change of socks if they have tights, jogging bottoms and jumpers for when they are outside.

### How to Help at Home.

Your child should be reading daily and discussing the content they read with an adult and recording this discussion in their creative learning logs. They need to make sure they continue to practice their times tables and the corresponding division facts at home.

Creative learning logs: Some weeks the children will be set activities on Mathematics, I would appreciate it if you could write in their creative learning log approximately how long the activities have taken them and if they needed any support. Please let me know if there are any problems with the work set by writing a note in their book.

### And Finally!

As always, can I say thank you for your continued support this year. As this maybe the last opportunity I have can I say a big thank you to the Year 6 parents and may I wish your children every success next year with their move to secondary school.

Please let me know if you have any expertise or artifacts that relate to the curriculum areas above. If you would like to come and share any of your knowledge with the children and have current DBS clearance please let me know.

The children already seem to be very enthusiastic and involved in the topic, in particular the part they played in creating their own learning environment

Mrs Law