

Danbury Park Community Primary School

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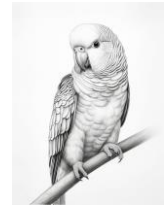
Email: admin@danburypark.essex.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs S Jones BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQH

Deputy Headteacher: Miss D Johnston BA

Class Buderigar Topic Letter Spring 2026 Ancient China

Welcome back and Happy New Year to you all. We start 2026 with our topic on Ancient China. Below I have outlined further details of our curriculum for this term, along with some ideas about how you can support your child's learning at home.



Topic

This term, our learning will centre on the Shang Dynasty, and the class will discover what life was like for people in Bronze Age China. This fascinating period is steeped in myths and legends and was also a time of great invention. We will explore China from a historical perspective, as well as taking a closer look at its physical geography and wildlife.

Reading

Reading underpins all learning, so I will be encouraging the children to read regularly. We ask that you support their learning by both reading to your child and listening to them read. Discussing books, exploring authors and talking about themes all help to deepen understanding.

Children are encouraged to make entries in their reading journals at home and to select books from a wide range of genres. They will benefit from developing independence in reading, maintaining focus on a text for a sustained period of time, aiming for around 30 minutes.

Although many children now enjoy reading independently, they continue to benefit greatly from having reading modelled to them, as well as sharing stories and reading for pleasure together.

English

In English, we will begin with a focus on imagery and figurative language in poetry. The children will read and explore a range of Chinese myths. Writing lessons will focus on applying grammar skills to descriptive and narrative pieces, while experimenting with vocabulary, sentence structure and style.

Spelling tests will take place weekly. Please encourage your child to explore spelling patterns, rules and exceptions beyond the words set, and to use dictionaries to look up the meanings of unfamiliar vocabulary.

Maths

In Mathematics we will be focusing on number, including ratio, algebra, fractions, decimals and percentages. Other areas to be covered include measurement, focusing on area, perimeter and volume, as well as statistics.

Weekly arithmetic practice will continue to keep skills sharp. As a school, we have continued our subscription to Times Tables Rock Stars and Mathematics, which children can use at home as well as at school. Please do encourage your child to both learn and practise their times table and division facts for rapid recall, as well as key facts related to decimals, percentages and fractions.

Science

In Science, we will explore living things and their habitats, learning about the classification of living things, including microorganisms. The children will investigate the question "Is yeast a microorganism?" and conduct an experiment involving the respiration of yeast. They will also explore both beneficial and harmful microorganisms, including how they are used in food and medicine.

During our unit on light, children will consolidate previous learning by exploring how light behaves, including light sources, reflection and shadows.

Art & Design Technology

Through Art and DT, we will explore the themes, styles and colours of traditional Chinese art. This will include dragons, Chinese calligraphy and brushstrokes, Ming Dynasty porcelain, and the impressive Terracotta Army statues.

Computing

In Computing, children will focus on programming, developing their understanding of how algorithms work and how code can be written, tested and debugged to achieve specific outcomes.

PE

PE sessions will take place on Tuesdays and Fridays. This term we will begin with hockey and tag rugby. After half term, the focus will move to netball and dodgeball.

RE

Our Religious Education topic begins with a study of Hinduism, exploring the key question: How can Brahman be everywhere and in everything?

Leading into Easter, we will then explore the concept of salvation in Christianity.

PSHE

This term, our PSHE themes will be 'Dreams and Goals', focusing on how to achieve goals and understand the emotions associated with them. In the second half of the term, we will move on to 'Healthy Me', learning about being and keeping safe and healthy.

Let's Present

Each Wednesday, children will have the opportunity to present to the class. Presentations should last around five minutes, including a short Q&A session. If children wish to use a PowerPoint, please send this via the Class B email address below.

If you have any questions, queries or concerns, no matter how small, please do get in touch via email at ClassB@danburypark.essex.sch.uk

. I will endeavour to check messages and respond between 3:30pm and 4:00pm each day. For any urgent messages, please send in a note or contact the school office, who will pass on the information.

Thank you in advance for your continued support,

J Eveleigh