



Danbury Park Community Primary School

Well Lane Danbury Chelmsford CM3 4AB

Telephone: 01245 224994 or 01245 224673

Email: admin@danburypark.essex.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs C Gooding BA (Hons), PGCE, MA (Ed), NPQH

Deputy Headteacher: Miss D Johnston BA

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Dear Parents,

This term our topic is the Shang Dynasty and the class will find out about the life and times of people in Bronze Age China. It is a period steeped in myths and legends as well as being a time of great invention. Not only will be looking at China from a historical viewpoint but also take a closer look at it's the physical geography of the land and its wildlife.

English

In writing this term, we will start by looking at a Chinese creation myth and then explore a variety of Chinese myths. Including the story behind the willow pattern. The class will also be writing non-chronological reports and explanation texts.

During guided reading, the children will experience a range of texts and practise answering questions to develop various skills such as understanding characters' thoughts, feelings and actions, techniques used to create atmosphere and tension as well as gathering information and facts from non-fiction texts. The children will continue on their own reading programme with the intention of completing a reading award. They should be encouraged to read a variety of genres and authors, recording in a selection of ways their responses to the books. If possible, we would also encourage them to read aloud to an adult in order to practise fluency and expression (prosody), and to give them an opportunity to discuss the books they have read.

On Wednesdays, we will continue with a speaking and listening focus with a new series of presentations.

Maths

We will be covering:

Fractions: Addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

Place value: identify the value of digits to 3 decimal places, multiply and divide with decimals and solve problems.

Percentages: recall and use equivalent fractions, decimals and percentages, calculate percentages of amounts and solve problems.

Algebra: use simple formulae, express number problems algebraically and find pairs of numbers that solves two unknowns.

Measurement: converting between imperial and metric units in length, mass and volume.

Measure: perimeter, area and volume. Use formulae to find area and volume of shapes.

Geometry: Position and Direction. Translations and reflections on 4 quadrant grids.

Ratio: solve problems involving relative size of two quantities. Solve problems of similar shapes using scale factors. Solve ratio and proportion problems.

In all contexts, children will become fluent, apply their understanding in reasoning and problem solving.

Science

This term we will cover:

Light - to recognise how light travels and how this affects the type of shadow created.

Animals, Including Humans - to identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system, and describe their role, to recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function and to describe the ways in which nutrients and water are transported within animals, including humans.

Computing

Following a program devised by Teach Computing, we shall be looking at Programming. The class will explore the concept of variables in programming through games in Scratch. They will find out what variables are and relate them to real-world examples of values that can be set. In addition, we shall recap e-Safety: to know a range of ways to report concerns and inappropriate behaviour.

History

The class will be looking at the Shang Dynasty and find out what life was like under these Bronze Age rulers.

Geography

Linked to China, the class will be taking a closer look at the key aspects of types of settlement and land which includes mountains, climate zones, biomes, vegetation belts and rivers. This term will include a recap of the water cycle.

Art and Design

As this is the year of the dragon the class will explore designing and making a free-standing dragon sculpture. They will develop their skills in using clay and investigate block and screen printing.

Design and Technology

This term the focus will be on food technology.

Physical Education

Gymnastics - Holes and Gaps: To travel over and under shapes made by a partner with or without contact, extend skills to travel over a moving base. To work co-operatively with a partner to design a sequence which shows variation in shape, speeds and direction and evaluate its effectiveness
Outdoor: Hockey and netball.

Religious Education

We will continue exploring two religions this term:

Sikhism and the key question - Are Sikh stories important today?

Christianity and the key question - How significant is it for Christians to believe God intended Jesus to die?

Music

The children will be listening to a range of music from China as well as learning about the pentatonic scale, composing their own music inspired by this.

Personal, Social and Health Education

Under the heading, Living in the Wider World, the class will be exploring rules, laws and democracy.

Finally, should you have any concerns about your child's learning, please feel free to arrange to an appointment to discuss this with me. Thank you once again for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Marsland