



Danbury Park Community Primary School

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19th April 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Summer Term: Class Budgerigar

Our summer topic has a 'lively' geography theme; we will be focusing on mountains, rivers, climate zones and vegetation belts, before moving onto volcanoes, tsunamis and earthquakes. We will be taking a close look at the South American country, Chile. Teaching and learning will be linked to our 'Big Question':

What is it like to grow up in Chile?

By reading the beautifully-written book, *Mia's Story* by Michael Foreman, and studying Danbury's geography and local history, the children will learn about the human and physical geography of Chile, contrasting and comparing facts particular to this country with their own environment.

In English, we shall continue to build on writing skills, exploring and creating both non-fiction and narrative texts. The class will read the opening of *Running Wild* by Michael Morpurgo, a captivating book rich in vocabulary, which links perfectly with our topic. They will also find out more about this modern writer and write a biography of his life so far. We will finish reading our class book, *Holes* by Louis Sachar, then - by popular demand, having read an extract in our guided reading sessions- the children will delve into *Iron Man* by Ted Hughes (they are really looking forward to this!).

In Mathematics, the main areas covered will be:

Fractions/Decimals/Percentages

- Convert fractions to decimals and vice versa.
- Percentages as decimals and fractions.
- Problem solving with fractions, decimals and percentages.
- Adding and subtracting decimals.
- Multiplying and dividing decimals.

Geometry - Properties of Shape

- Identify, compare and order angles.
- Measure angles.
- Calculate angles on a straight line and round a point.

Geometry - Position & Direction

- Position on first quadrant.
- Translation & coordinates.
- Reflection & coordinates.

In Science, we will continue to 'think scientifically', encouraging the children to 'test' theories and challenge opinions. During the summer term, we will look at properties & changes of materials, in particular:

- Compare and group together everyday materials on the basis of their properties, including their hardness, solubility, transparency, conductivity (electrical and thermal), and response to magnets.
- Know that some materials will dissolve in liquid to form a solution, and describe how to recover a substance from a solution.
- Use knowledge of solids, liquids & gases to decide how mixtures might be separated, including through filtering, sieving and evaporating
- Demonstrate that dissolving, mixing and changes of state are reversible changes
- Explain that some changes result in the formation of new materials, and that this kind of change is not usually reversible.

The class will also find out about Earth & Space so they can:

- Describe the movement of the Earth, and other planets, relative to the Sun in the solar system
- Describe the movement of the Moon relative to the Earth
- Describe the Sun, Earth and Moon as approximately spherical bodies
- Use the idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky.

Over the summer term, the class will focus on athletic skills, such as throwing (javelin) and running 'effectively', so that they can be gear up to Sports Day with confidence as well as excitement! In June, our year 5's will be attending a fun day of activities at Danbury Outdoors, having opportunities to try new things as well as revisit old ones!

In RE, the class will continue discussing the Sikh and Christian ways of life, looking at some key beliefs and ideas. In PSHE, we will focus on Health and Wellbeing and welcoming the '2 John's' to work with the pupils on the importance of internet safety. In Art- a subject Class Budgerigar look forward to- we will study sculptures, designing and making our own.

Our year 6 pupils will embark on their much-anticipated 'school journey' and continue preparing for their transition to high school, moving to Class Avocet after the half-term break. Before they do so, we will all celebrate our learning with you at our class assembly at the end of this half term.

I am looking forward to an exciting summer term. As always, I welcome children sharing their experiences 'out of school' with me or indeed, the whole class, and look forward to any contributions which they would like to make to enhance learning linked to this term's topic.

Kind regards,

Mrs. Murphy.