

## English

Our English lessons will link to our 'Explorers' topic. Firstly, we will learn the story, 'The Storm Whale' by Benji Davies and will use actions and story maps to help us to retell the story confidently. After this, we will be inventing our own story and changing the story setting. We are also hoping to be part of a performance project linked to The Courtyard Theatre in Hereford. We will finish our half term by writing some whale shape poems. In our phonics sessions, we will continue to learn the phase 5 alternative sounds, as well as revising our previously learnt sounds. This term, we will begin weekly spelling tests linked to these sounds.

## Mathematics

Our maths learning this term will look at developing our understanding of addition and subtraction within 20. We will compare numbers to 20, place these on number lines and find one more and one less than these numbers. We will continue to work on our place value unit of work and specifically focus on teen numbers and how these are made. After this, we will be learning how to sort, draw, recognise and make patterns with 2D and 3D shapes.

## Science

Our science topics this term look at 'Seasonal Changes' and 'Everyday Materials.' We will be looking at different materials and describing their properties. We will investigate the best material to keep polar explorer warm and dry. We will create our own boats and discover why a material might be useful for a specific job.

## Computing

In our computing lessons, we will continue to practice our knowledge on algorithms and simple coding. We will use apps on the iPads to create digital pieces of art linked to The Storm Whale. Finally, we will use the Book Creator app to make an advert for our recycled t-shirt bags we are making in DT.

## Music

In our music lessons, we will be learning about Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony and will create our own stormy song including actions for the thunder and wind and rain. After this, we will learn how to play instruments and maintain a steady beat.

## Art and Design

In art, we will focus on 'drawing.' We will be using different grades of pencil to draw shapes, lines and patterns. We will learn how to draw self-portraits and take part in a drawing workshop with Mrs Bennett.

## History & Geography

In our history lessons, we will be learning about Antarctic explorers and the journey to reach the South Pole. We will research the people and equipment they used and discuss how things have changed for explorers today. In Geography, we learn how to identify the poles and equator on a map or a globe. We will look at how explorers require specific clothing to survive. We will also look at the UK in more detail identifying the four countries and their capital cities.

## How you can help

Please read with your child on a regular basis- this can be a schoolbook or one from home. Books will be changed on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Please practise the weekly spellings activities that are set for your child. Mrs Bloore will share additional information about this. Thank you for your continued support!

## Year 1 Spring 2024 'We are Explorers!'

## Design Technology

In our first DT project this term we will making a 'moving picture' by using a mechanism. We will learn how to create sliding, lever, pivot and wheel mechanisms and choose the best one for our moving pictures.



As part of our school's Harmony Project, we will be delving into the principle of 'The Cycle,' and how this presents itself in nature. We will be linking this to a recycling project where we use old t-shirts to make our own shopping bags!

## RE & PSHE

In RE, we will be learning about the Jewish faith and making comparisons to Christianity. We will learn about key beliefs, symbols, places of worship and stories related to special celebrations. After half-term, we will learn about the Easter Story and new life. In PSHE, we will be looking at 'Dreams and Goals.' For example, how we succeed and what success looks like to us as individuals. Then we will learn all about our amazing bodies and keeping it healthy.

## Physical Education

In our PE lessons with Mr Gibbs, we will be focussing on gymnastics. We will learn about controlling body tension, balance and co-ordinating a sequence of movements under control. The movements will be sequenced and linked with different forms of travelling including stretching, rolling and travelling. After this, we will have great fun using the indoor apparatus.