

Hedgehog Class' Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn



As readers, Hedgehog Class will continue to read daily in either their Read Write Inc. phonic groups or with their Reading Rangers comprehension groups. In phonics, the children will continue to read books appropriate to their reading level. In Mr Turner's Reading Rangers group, the children begin the school year with 'Meerkat Madness'.

As writers, the children will be exploring the story, 'Meerkat Mail'. The children will explore the features of the narrative texts known as 'journey stories', and learn and apply the skills needed to write an effective story with a journey to embark upon. After half term, we will explore non-fiction texts, focusing our attention on meerkats and the Kalahari Desert.



As mathematicians, we will begin by exploring place value. Children in year two will recap their understanding of numbers to 20 and year three will recap numbers to 100. They will then use a variety of different representations to show their understanding of numbers to 100 (year two) and numbers to 1,000 (year three), before comparing and ordering objects and numbers. After half term, the children will move into mental addition and subtraction, before completing the term with written strategies to add and subtract.

As scientists, the children will be learning all about forces and magnets, and investigate why some materials can be stretched, squashed, bent and twisted. Children will explore the forces 'push' and 'pull' more deeply before collaboratively investigating friction. Then, we will explore the way magnetic poles can attract and repel and investigate the strengths of different magnets. Our second science unit will link with our English, Music and Art topics as we look at habitats from around the world and the animals that live there.



As athletes, the children will begin the year with cross country, building the stamina and endurance skills required to run long distances. The children will also be developing their rugby skills, and their ability to participate in competitive team games. They will be developing simple tactics for attacking and defending, evaluating and considering their successes in doing so.

As historians, Hedgehog Class will be exploring the life of Floella Benjamin, celebrating Black History Month, and looking at the journey her family took moving to England. After half term, we will explore all things Romans, and learn what the Romans 'did for Britain'.



As geographers, we'll be exploring the destructive powers of nature, exploring why these natural phenomena occur and the effect they have on people. We will finish the unit exploring volcanoes, and make the link with history by exploring the Roman city of Pompeii, and the events leading up to the eruption of Mount Versuvias.

As artists, children of Hedgehog Class will be introduced to the works of Megan Coyle and Henri Matisse, focusing particularly on their 'animal portraits'. Children will compare and contrast both artists and their works, considering the similarities and differences, as well as considering how both artists use collage as a medium to create vibrant, expressive works of art. Through exploring their styles, students will create their own collages, using similar techniques to both artists to express creativity and learn about color, shape, and texture.



As musicians, we will be exploring the ballad, 'A Horse with No Name', and will learn how to find the pulse of the song and play simple notes. Building on our work in Art and Science, we will also explore the classical pieces of music titled, 'Carnival of the Animals', and investigate how music can be used to illustrate and create 'animal portraits', making comparisons with the art of Henri Matisse and Megan Coyle.



As linguists, the children will begin by learning (or recapping) the basic greetings of 'hello', 'hi' and 'good evening/night'. They will then move onto asking each other's names and how they are feeling, learning a variety of different responses to the latter.

As computing practitioners, we will begin the year by learning about 'online safety'. Children will learn how to use search engines safely, the risks involved with setting up accounts and what being a good 'digital citizen' looks like.



As theologians, the children will begin by exploring the Creation Story from a Christian point of view, before comparing the similarities and differences between this and the Jewish Creation Story. We will then consider how Christians and Jews interpret the Creation Story within their faith.