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# Stratosphere.

The newsletter about learning!  
How to help your child really take off!

**ACTIVE LEARNING:**  
**DOING / THINKING / UNDERSTANDING**

## What are we learning this term?



A message from Mrs Watkins and Mrs J Waters: Butterfly Class



### 'What's your Adventure?'

FEE FI FO FUM...

Butterfly Class are going on an adventure this term, up a giant beanstalk, to a castle in the clouds. We will recap on the Storybox Theatre production of 'Jack and the Beanstalk' and learn alternative versions of the story. As we learn about our local environment, we will visit the castle ruins at 'Old Sarum', whilst carrying out a local field study. We will learn human and physical features to extend our geographical knowledge.

We will explore non-fiction texts and learn about different castles and the features of a castle, consolidating our learning in our own castle role-play area. In maths we will focus on the money that Jack took to market and learn the names of coins. We will add and subtract using money.

In science we will carry out an investigation to grow beans and learn the names and properties of everyday materials and use this knowledge to design a castle for 'Mike the Knight'. We will hypothesise on the best material to make a castle from and whether a castle made from paper would be a good castle!

In R.E. we will learn about the Judaism and what Jews do during Shabbat. Our P.E. lessons will focus on preparing for Sports' Day with lots of skipping practice, obstacle races, throwing and jumping!

We begin our topic with a traditional story, but will read other stories like 'Sir Charlie Stinky Socks' and 'Zog', we may even meet knights and dragons along the way, as the children develop their own adventures!

Hold tight, where will your adventure take you?



## A message from Miss Smith: Owl Class 'Ahoy and All Aboard!'



For the Summer Term, our topic is '**Ahoy and All Aboard!**' We will be embracing our inner pirates! We will start our topic with D&T, making our own boats, which will link to our Science, where we will be exploring different materials and performing experiments to test materials and how well they float, as well as testing materials for durability and how waterproof they are. We will then decide which material is best to create our sails. We will go on to learn about sea creatures and their environments, and we will write reports on the facts that we find.

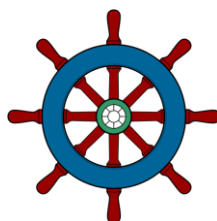
Our Geography during this topic will be a local study of Salisbury and most importantly the features that we can find in the land around our school. This will involve Wellie Walks and looking at maps of Salisbury to identify and label features, as well as drawing a treasure map or two! We will then use these skills to investigate a Caribbean island where pirates had their adventures. We will compare this island to where we live and learn about the features of coasts and beaches.

In English, we will be learning about the story '**The Night Pirates**' by Peter Harris, which we will retell, perform and then innovate to create our own versions. We will also be learning and writing about famous pirates and using them as inspiration to create new pirate adventures.

In Maths we will be looking at 2D and 3D shapes, fractions and revising our addition, subtraction, multiplication and division skills through a range of different problems. We will also be using money, making different amounts in different ways, totalling amounts and finding change.

Our focus artist for this topic is **Alfred Wallis** and we will be discussing his paintings of boats and the sea, recreating our own using drawing skills as well as different multimedia through collage. There will also be our project for the June Fayre - but this is top secret!

In Music, we will be singing songs about pirates and the sea, developing our percussion playing and reading of rhythms and composing sea creature raps.



## A message from Miss Robinson: Woodpecker Class 'Salisbury Marks the Spot!'



I am home to a tall spire and a ruined castle. Five rivers runs through me. Mystical stones sit at my north side. What am I?

This term Woodpeckers will be finding out about Salisbury. We will be learning about riddles in English, analysing what makes a good riddle and having a go at writing our own. After this we will become authors, creating inciting story starters and writing stories set in places familiar to us.

We will become geographers and explorers learning all about maps, drawing our own and following them. We will look at maps and plans of the school, of Stratford-sub-Castle and of the wider area. Comparing Salisbury to other places we have been, we will consider its main features and how it differs to other cities and towns.

In Art we will be investigating different textures and patterns and making collages in the style of Jeannie Baker. Science will find us investigating and observing rocks and fossils, focussing on how different types of rocks are formed. We will link these two subjects by spending time sketching rocks and fossils.

R.E finds us learning about different faiths. Judaism and the relationship Jews have with God. We will be spending time outside in P.E practising our bowling and batting skills, learning how to play rounders and also cricket with Mrs Bridson. In French we will continue learning how to talk about ourselves by learning the words for colours and clothes.

Music with Mrs Aylett will involve learning songs about our environment, developing our glockenspiel playing and fitting our own words about rocks and fossils to known melodies.

## A Message from Miss Crook - Robin Class



### Extreme Survival

What is mountain life like? What do you need to do to survive on a desert island? How do you make a raft? We'll answer these questions, and more in our topic - *Extreme Survival*.

First, we will learn about mountains and hills. We'll improve our map skills to find where mountains are in the world. We'll improve our research skills to find out about the climate and life on a mountain. In art, we will learn about 'string art' and create our own mountain landscape using the craft.

In history, we will learn about how explorers have contributed to British history. We will find out about explorers from the Tudors up to today.

In English, we will learn about the author Michael Morpurgo. We will focus on his book '*Kensuke's Kingdom*' which is set on a desert island. We will learn about the style of Michael Morpurgo and write our story inspired by life on a desert island

This term we are taking part in a project with Salisbury Playhouse. We'll have workshops at school and visit Salisbury Playhouse. In July, we will perform our own play inspired by our learning about Michael Morpurgo's '*Kensuke's Kingdom*'. Dates for your diary:

- **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May - Drama workshops with Kate Robinson from Salisbury Playhouse (in school)**
- **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June - Rehearsal at Salisbury Playhouse**
- **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July - Performance at Salisbury Playhouse (We will perform our show to parents between 11:30 and 12:30)**

A separate letter and tickets for the final performance will be sent nearer the time.

In science this term, we will learn about forces. We'll be making boats to test water resistance and experimenting with the size of parachutes to find out about air resistance.

Also this term, we will be practising our tennis skills, learning how to play cricket as well as improving our athletics skills ready for Sports' Day. We will continue to have recorder sessions with Mr Walker and music sessions with Mrs Aylett. Music with Mrs Aylett will involve composing soundscapes for hostile environments, singing songs and listening to music about mountains and caves, meeting the treble clef and devising and adapting music as part of the Playhouse project.

In RE we'll be learning about important beliefs for Hindus about life and death.

## Mrs Wareham - Kestrel Class



This term Kestrel Class are hitting the road, as we look at how transport has evolved over time. We will be investigating different ways to travel and inventing our own vehicles. In DT we will be designing our own modes of transport and applying our understanding of electricity to get them moving!

We will be exploring the classic novel 'Wind in the Willows' in English, as well as brushing up on our acting skills, ready for our class show. As we study the character of Mr Toad we will be able to use his passion for motor cars to further inspire our work in DT and History. Alongside preparing for the show we will also be writing and performing our own play-scripts and creating persuasive pieces to 'draw in the crowds'.

The theme of transport will continue as we travel across 'The English Channel' to explore France. An element of our learning in Geography will be comparing a region of France with our own locality. While exploring France we are going to continue to develop our French speaking skills and learn vocabulary for travelling and directions.



Our focus in Art will be the craft of a costume designer, as we prepare our outfits for our show. In Music, we will be developing our reading of pitch and rhythm, gaining confidence in performance, learning songs and listening to music about transport and continuing to write our own scores.

In Computing we are going to look at different ways to stay in touch, with a focus on social media. As a class we will investigate staying safe online and how posts and images on the internet can be shared and seen by others around the world.

During PE this term we will join Robin Class for athletics, in the build up to Sports' Day and be playing games which involve fielding and catching. Hopefully we will have enough energy left to 'get our show on the road!'



