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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 J Waters: Butterfly Class



'Making Your Mark'

A very big welcome to all the children (and families) who have started school in Butterfly Class this term.

The most important focus of this term is that the children are happy and settle into the class and the school. To help us get to know all of the children really well and give them an exciting and engaging start, we will follow the interests of the children as they begin to make their mark!

'The Dot' is a story of a teacher who dares a doubting student to trust in her own abilities by being brave enough to 'make her mark'. This will be the launch pad for our topic this term, leading to celebrate International Dot Day! (15th September 2017)

We will have a range of activities in our indoor and outdoor continuous provision which the children will access independently through play. We will learn about ourselves, our families, our friends and our school and local environment. In numeracy we will be estimating, counting, reading, recognising and writing numbers. We will learn the names of 2D shapes and their properties. We will also be measuring ourselves to find the tallest and shortest in the class.

We will explore mark making through handwriting patterns and music. We will practise writing our names, captions and labels. We will create and retell our own stories through role-play and small world play.

We will use ICT and paint to create pointillism pictures in the style of Georges Seurat. In P.E we will learn to express ourselves through creative dance and practise moving with control and co-ordination whilst using small and large equipment.

We will go on 'Welly Walks' using the beautiful village of Stratford-Sub-Castle and the surrounding area to enhance our learning. We are really looking forward to getting to know all of the new children starting at Stratford school this year and aim to give them all a fantastic start to their school career.

What are we learning this term?

Miss K. Smith: Owl Class



'Let's Mix it Up'

This term our topic is called "Let's Mix It Up!" which perfectly fits our new way of working as a class! The focus of our topic will be Science, and we will be learning about sorting and classifying materials. We will also look at mixing different materials. We will develop our predicting and reasoning skills through experimentation. This will involve us measuring and recording our observations!

In English we will be learning how to retell and perform the story 'The Little Red Hen', which we will then mix up and adapt to create our own new stories. We will write and illustrate our stories, collecting them together in a book. We hope to learn each other's stories for performance.

Our Maths will all be based around number and place value. We will practise counting in different steps using number lines and 100 squares. We will look at how a number can be made, using number bonds, and creating numbers using different manipulatives. We will order and compare numbers, using our knowledge to solve problems.

In Art we are going to be using natural resources and looking at how we can create an image using and mixing these different materials. We will capture these images by photographing them and then recreating using digital media on the laptops. This will allow us to see how different textures can be used to create effects.

In RE we are learning about the Creation Story and talking about how we can take care of our World, and explore why we think should.

In Music, we'll learn seasonal and topic-based songs, learning how to look after our voices and the best posture for singing, develop playing skills with glockenspiels and untuned and body percussion, and experiment with different ways to make and mix sounds.



What are we learning this term?

A message from Miss Robinson: Woodpecker Class 'Britain's Got Talent!'



This term in Woodpecker Class we will be learning all about our country and discovering if Britain really does have talent! We will begin by learning about the British values of democracy, rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance. We will consider how these apply to us and our everyday lives.

In English, we will be reading books by Oliver Jeffers and using these to inspire us to write letters from an animal's point of view. We will then be looking at the poetry of Benjamin Zephaniah. In Maths, we will be spending time working on our number skills and securing our understanding of place value. We will continue working through our Maths Facts booklets too.

In History and Geography, we will investigate the four nations, learning about sea-sides, rivers and canals. We will become explorers, discovering castles, mountains and major hills around the UK. We are going to consider our own place within the country and think about our hopes and dreams for the year. We will observe ourselves closely in mirrors and learn about colour mixing when we paint self-portraits. We will make our own shields, thinking about people and things that we love and are important to us.

In PE we will be spending as much time outside as possible practising our ball skills and learning the different skills needed for winter games. We will then move on to learning about dance and constructing our own routines.

R.E sees us learning about Islam and considering the question; does praying at regular intervals help Muslims in their everyday life? We will learn about the Christian creation story and the Nativity story closer to Christmas.

We will become scientists, investigating the needs of different animals, including humans and considering how we can keep ourselves healthy.

In Music with Mrs Aylett, we will learn topic-related and seasonal songs, develop awareness of rhythm, dynamics and note duration in singing and playing, play glockenspiels and untuned percussion, extending our knowledge of rhythm notation, and compose music for the seaside. In Woodpecker Class we are also lucky enough to have weekly recorder lessons with Mr Walker on a Friday morning!



What are we learning this term?



A message from Mrs Williams & Mrs Bridson: Fox Class 'A Night at the Museum!'

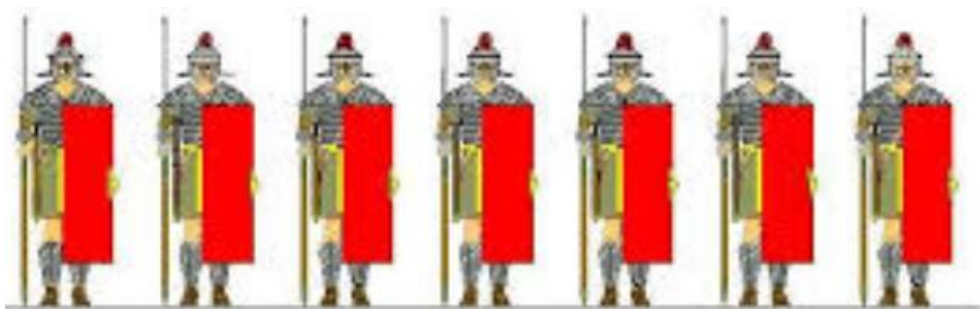
This term Fox Class will become curators as we investigate the exciting and mysterious world of museums. Our inspiration will come from the popular film 'A Night at the Museum' which features an array of interesting characters.

We will explore the language associated with museums and collections. Through poetry we will develop our descriptive writing and our ability to bring artefacts to life through creating and performing. Fox Class will also write journals based on the 'day in the life' of a curator, together with composition of persuasive texts considering the value of museums in today's world.

The class will develop their ability to solve multi-step problems with increasingly large numbers and use rounding to help determine accuracy. Our understanding of dates, chronology and numerals will also link with History, in which we will focus the legacy of the Roman Empire. The latter will also be the theme for Geography, in which we will study 'settlements'.

Our 'class museum' will also feature a planetarium, so in DT we shall be building an orrery and in Science we shall learn about our solar system. This ties in with Music, in which we will sing topic-related songs, concentrating on dynamics and expression, developing confidence to lead singing, together with meeting new challenges when playing glockenspiels and composing our own 'space music'.

Continuing the theme of time, the concept of 'Eternity' is our focus in RE



What are we learning this term?

A Message from Miss Crook : Robin Class



'Clocks, Compasses and Catapults'

Set your **clocks**, line up your **compass** and prepare your **catapult** for our learning adventure this term! First, we will catapult into the past to learn about the Romans in Britain and their legacy. We will investigate how architecture, roads, art are still influenced by the Romans today.

In science, we will start by find out how the Romans used the light to tell the time and create a sundial. As scientists, we will find out about light, shadows and how we see. After half term, we will learn about space and time.

We will read the book, 'Clockwork' by Philip Pullman. We will write our own inspired stories based on the book. Also in English, we will write our own information books about Roman Britain.

In RE, we will be considering time and using our 'deep-thinking' skills to investigate the question 'Is anything ever eternal?' We will focus on Christian beliefs. Also, we will prepare for the Harvest Festival.

As artists, we will improve our printing skills in art this term. We will learn about the 'Pop-Art' movement, different artists and techniques used, focussing on printmaking. Our final 'Clocks, Compasses and Catapults' print will be inspired by the 'Pop-Art' movement using colours and techniques.

After half-term, we will need our compasses to help us learn about settlements. We will find out about different Roman settlements in the UK and their needs. We will investigate the land-use of Salisbury and how different areas are used. As part of that, we will learn about the different industries of Salisbury.

In Music, we'll be developing our singing and playing skills, learning seasonal and topic-related songs, meeting more challenging rhythmic and pitch notation and composing music for a Roman army.

This term we will develop our winter games and gymnastic skills with Mrs Bridson. Year 5s will have weekly swimming sessions (Friday) at Five Rivers Leisure Session to improve swimming skills.

- Monday - PE with Mrs Bridson (Year 5 & 6)
- Friday - PE with Mrs Bridson (Year 6); Swimming with Miss Crook (Year 5).



