



Edition 58: January 2019

Stratosphere.

The newsletter about learning! Help your child really take off!

Our commitment to learning is to make it **ACTIVE** and **RELEVANT**.

What are we learning this term?



A message from Mrs. Waters: Butterfly Class



Exciting Expeditions!

We are off on an exciting adventure, stopping first in China. We will follow the route of the famous explorer 'Marco Polo'.

We will learn which animals are found in China and the species native to China. We will read information books and learn the features of a non-fiction text. We will then create our own non-fiction books using 'Talk for Writing'. We will be writing captions, labels and short sentences.

We will find China and England on a world map and discuss ways of travel. We will taste Chinese foods and have a go at making Chinese spring rolls.

The Great Wall of China will be our inspiration for building, using a variety of media and materials. We will create and retell our own stories through role-play and small world play. We will also have a Chinese restaurant role-play area and practise using money as our maths focus.

In Maths we will also explore 2D and 3D shapes and create tangrams. We will also sequence and order numbers 1-10/20, securely counting 10 objects and beyond.

Our topic will lead to exploring the faith of Buddhism and the celebration of Chinese New Year. In P.E. we will learn Chinese New Year dancing. We will also practise yoga techniques.

We will learn how to warm-up our voices, play singing games and learn songs connected with China. We will improve our playing skills on unpitched percussion and find out about Chinese musical instruments and explore the work of the composer Chen Yi. We will learn about the famous artist Qi Baishi and create artwork in his style, using mixed media.

We will think about similarities and differences between China and England and explore the work of the scientist Zhang Heng, who invented the world's first seismoscope.

Let's get ready to embrace our journey, where will we go next? What exciting things will we learn along the way? Our 'Exciting Expeditions' have only just begun!

Scientist	Zhang Heng
Artist	Qi Baishi
Composer	Chen Yi

What are we learning this term?

A message from Miss Robinson: Woodpecker Class



Learn like an Egyptian!

This term we will be travelling back in time, taking a trip down the Nile in Ancient Egypt! We will begin by learning to write our own names in hieroglyphs and creating a 'cartouche'. We will do some Egyptian maths by code breaking and solving calculations.

In English, we will begin by writing 'tomb discovery stories', learning how to make our writing more exciting and build suspense for the reader. Things might get a bit gruesome when we write instructions for mummification! Together, we will be reading the book *Flat Stanley: The Great Egyptian Grave Robbery* by Jeff Brown in order to improve our inference and retrieval skills.

As mathematicians we will learn about multiplication and division; focussing on different methods we can use to solve calculations and the different ways of representing our findings. We will then move on to learn about money, using what we have learnt about addition and subtraction to solve 'real life' money problems.

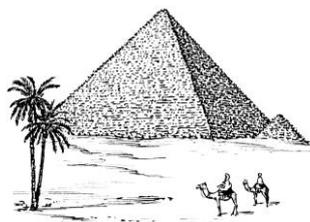
Our historical topic will find us learning about who the Ancient Egyptians were and how they lived. We will learn more about hieroglyphs and how they were used to communicate. To inspire ourselves to write instructions we will learn all about the process of mummification and why this was so important to the Egyptians. Then, we will turn into archaeologists and learn about the tomb of Tutankhamun and how it was discovered. We will look at the evidence of Ancient life that was found inside.

In Science we will learn about the uses of everyday materials and their properties. Linking to our topic, we will investigate what everyday materials were used in Ancient Egypt and how they compare to what we use now. We will be experimenting with different materials in order to understand why we use them.

In P.E (on Monday afternoons and Thursday mornings) we will be doing net games and gymnastics, developing ball skills and team work. In Music, we'll sing songs about winter and Easter and find out lots about Ancient Egypt through songs. We'll carry on developing our playing skills on glockenspiels and unpitched percussion and compose music to go with our topic.

We are going to make sarcophagus' in Art; taking our time to design, model, decorate and paint them. This will link with mummification as we find out how the Ancient Egyptians prepared bodies for mummification!

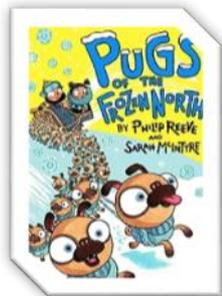
Scientist	Howard Carter
Artist	French street artist 'JR'
Composer	John Williams



Life in all its fullness

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A message from Mrs. Cook: Fox Class

Fire and Ice

This term we are focusing on two powerful elements; 'Fire and Ice'.

We will kick-start our English with a poem 'The Frozen Man' by Kit Wright. We will be innovating our own poems using his as our inspiration.

Our whole class read this term is 'The Frozen Pugs of the North' by Philip Reeve, which sees two friends going against the odds to win the Great Northern Race in a sled pulled by a team of sixty-six pugs – very exciting indeed! After this book we'll be switching to a focus on 'fire' and read 'Escape from Pompeii' by Christina Balit.

In Mathematics, our learning will focus on formal methods for multiplication and division. We will be using manipulatives to develop our understanding of both of these concepts along the way. Also, we will be looking at area and fractions.

In Science, we will be continuing to look at forces specifically levers, pulleys and gears before moving onto states of matter! We will be looking at the particles that make up solids, liquids and gases and conducting different experiments. Then we will move onto looking at the water cycle.

In Geography, our atlases will be at the ready, as find out all about the world and how it is organised – looking at the equator and the different hemispheres. We will learn all about different time zones and learn about lines of latitude and longitudes.

Later on in the term we will find out who the Anglo Saxons were, their beliefs and what artefacts tell us about their time in the UK.

In DT, we will develop our learning about mechanisms and how to make machines work well. We will find out about different types of mechanisms, levers, linkages and gears. Then we will design and make our own flying creatures using levers and linkages!

We will continue to have music with Mrs Aylett, where we'll learn seasonal and topic-related songs and continue to develop reading and writing music for glockenspiels. We'll compose raps and listen to music inspired by fire and ice, including Stravinsky's 'Firebird'.

Other learning this term includes:

- PE (Monday & Thursday) we will be developing our fitness, muscular control and stamina levels.
- In PSHE, reflecting on the different relationships we have with people and how to be assertive. In January, we will take part in a session with the Life Education Centre team thinking about how to lead a healthy life.
- In RE, finding out about how Jews show their commitment to God and reflecting on how to show commitment to things that are important to us.

As always, we've got a busy term ahead!

Scientist	Isaac Newton
Artist	Kyffin Williams
Composer	Igor Stravinsky

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A Message from Miss Crook: Robin Class

Secrets from the Sky

We are zooming high in the air for our new topic – ‘*Secrets from the Sky*’.

In Geography, we will be flying around the world to learn about its organisation. We will find out about different time zones. Also, we will learn about lines of latitude, longitudes, and important ‘lines’ such as the equator, Tropic of Cancer, Tropic of Capricorn and Prime Meridian.

What is a cloud? In Science we will learn about different types of weather and the water cycle. We will carry out different water-based experiments developing our investigative skills. After half term, we will learn about the power of lightening and electricity. We will learn about the work of Michael Faraday and its impact on our lives.

In DT, we will develop our learning about mechanisms and how to make machines work well. We will find out about different types of mechanisms, levers, linkages and gears. We will design and make our own flying creatures using the different mechanisms.

We will imagine we are in a helicopter for our art learning this term. We will investigate the photography of Tommy Clarke and study some of his aerial photographs of beaches and landscapes. We will have a go creating our own aerial images of places. We will continue to have music with Mrs Aylett. We’ll listen to music by Stravinsky and others inspired by fire and the sky. We’ll learn songs about the seasons and our topic. We’ll continue to develop our reading of music using glockenspiels and compose raps or songs about the sky.

In English, we will begin by writing our own poems inspired by the sky. We will read the book ‘Wonder’ by R.J. Palacio and develop our story-writing skills. Later in the term, we will develop our persuasive writing skills.

Other learning this term includes:

- PE (Monday & Friday): we will develop our gymnastic skills as well as get ready for the football and netball tournament in later in the term
- PSHE: reflecting on the different relationships we have with people and how to be assertive. In January, we will take part in a session with the Life Education Centre team thinking about how to lead a healthy life
- Mathematics: our learning will focus on fractions, decimals and percentages. Also, we will improve our measuring and geometry skills
- RE: finding out about how Jews show their commitment to God and reflecting on how to show commitment to things that are important to us
- History: we will find out who the Anglo Saxons were, their beliefs and what artefacts tell us about their time in the UK.

As always, we’ve got a busy term ahead!

Scientist	Michael Faraday
Artist	Tommy Clarke (https://tommyclarke.co.uk/)
Composer	Stravinsky



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