



Colvestone Primary School

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Class Newsletter Spring Term 2019

Year 5

Miss Nasima Ephraim
Miss Diane Barzey
Miss Jackie Riviere

'Ecology and Sustainability'

Our curriculum theme this Spring term is 'Ecology and Sustainability'. As part of our learning we will investigate life cycles and the processes that all living things go through. The aim of the curriculum theme is to develop children's knowledge and understanding of 'the environment and how they can be good eco-citizens'. Children will have the opportunity to engage in learning experiences which enable them to learn about how their individual choices and the decisions that they make. Our class novel is ***The Variety of Life*** by Nicola Davies. This book will be used as a stimulus for whole class shared reading, handwriting and comprehension activities.

Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE).

Children will learn about respect for self and others and the importance of responsible behaviours and actions. They will also identify the importance of respecting and protecting the environment both local and worldwide. Children will explore how they can work together to bring about change.

English

Reading: Your child will develop their reading stamina (reading for a longer period) and their comprehension skills of retrieving information from a text and using inference (using evidence from the text to support answers) and deduction (making predictions/judgements based on facts).

Writing: Your child will revise the features of different genres of writing (biography, discussion, explanation, description and persuasion, balanced arguments) and use their understanding to create their own texts. Writing will be linked to the topic so your child is learning about ecology and sustainability as they write.

Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar: Your child will develop more sophisticated writing through using different sentence structures eg relative clauses, adventurous and precise vocabulary, a greater variety of punctuation eg brackets, commas and speech marks.

Mathematics

Number: Your child will revise written methods for multiplication and division, focus on all aspects of fractions and decimals, including ordering, converting and adding/subtracting them. They will also revise place value and number facts.

Children need to be fluent in times tables up to 12 x 12.

Geometry and measurement: Your child will further develop their knowledge of 2-D and 3-D shapes, area and perimeter, position and direction.

Mental maths: Your child will continue to enhance their mental strategies for all operations including being able to add and subtract 3 digit numbers rather than using a written method.

Topic

Your child will learn about ecology and sustainability by exploring a range of 'big questions'. These questions are based on current environmental topics that will help children consider their role in protecting the environment.

- **What is ecology and sustainability?**
- **Why do we have different plants and animals?**
- **How have rising temperatures affected our world?**
- **Why do bees matter?**
- **What does the Earth think of us?**
- **How do we know the climate is changing?**
- **What are the issues that the environment is facing?**



Geography

Children will find out about examples of extreme environments and their ecosystems such as Antarctica, the Sahara, the Australian Outback and the summit of Mount Everest. They will identify places in the UK and worldwide where different species of bees can be found and the kind of geographical conditions needed for bee populations to thrive. Children will research the life cycle of a bee, how honey is produced, their importance for pollination, why they are under threat and what can be done about it.

Religious Education (RE)

During the first half term we will identify some of the beliefs and values of Sikhism. We will investigate the question 'What can we learn from the past?' in Summer 2. We aim to promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all pupils through discussions and sharing about experiences.

Physical Education (PE)

Your child will continue to develop their swimming stamina and their stroke technique. The aim, by the end of the year, is that your child can swim competently, confidently and proficiently over a distance of at least 25 metres and use a range of strokes effectively.

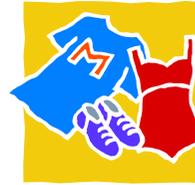


Science

Children will learn to describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird. They will also describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals. Children will plan different types of scientific enquiries to answer questions, including recognising and controlling variables where necessary.

Reminders

Swimming is every Tuesday and the second PE session will be on **Friday**. Please remind your child to bring appropriate kit.



Homework is given out each **Friday** and is to be returned by the **following Wednesday**. It will normally consist of a Maths task, English task, spellings and an online task.

Reading: It is vital that your child continues to read every day at home. Please make time to listen to your child read and chat with them about their current book.



Encourage your child to read a wide range of genres: magazines, newspapers, recipe books, graphic novels etc.

Quiz your child on their Times Tables daily.

Remind them to bring their novel on Wednesdays for Big Read!

Punctuality: It is vital that children get into good time-keeping habits. **The more time in school, the better their learning outcomes will be.**



Miss Ephraim will be out of class on Tuesday mornings for planning, preparation and assessment time. During this period, your child will be swimming and then completing a comprehension activity. On Fridays children will be taught by Miss Sullivan.

Thank you in anticipation of your support this term.