DT

Focus: Designing and building a playground

The children will work independently to design and build their playground. They will be aiming to include 5 pieces of equipment on 3 different structures. They will be building these structures out of simple materials and recycling. Some may even get time to add other features like trees, pond and benches.

Music

Focus: Song – A New Year Carol

All the learning is focused around one song from Benjamin Britten's Friday Afternoons: A New Year Carol. The children will have the opportunity to research Benjamin Britten's life and to listen to many of his other works.

French

Focus: Sport and the Olympics

Children will be learning sporting vocabulary as well as developing their understanding of key sporting events in France. They will also be expanding their knowledge of country names.

Focus: My dreams for the world

This unit will focus on hopes and goals and looking at how to achieve your goals. We will be looking at motivation and resilience, as well as looking at how to celebrate the achievements of others.

Focus: Why is pilgrimage important to some religious believers?

Focus: Seated volleyball / handball and gymnastics

This term we will be looking at being creative with our tactics and maintaining balance when playing seated volleyball and handball. In gymnastics we will be looking at body control in activities based around balance, flight, shape, weight on hands and rotation.

Computing

Focus: Blogging

This unit will focus on teaching children what a blog is and how to write one. They will learn how to comment on the blogs of others, as well as what is are appropriate comments to make and what are not. We will be creating a class blog during these lessons, as well as covering internet safety.

English

Class Reader: Cosmic by Frank Cottrell-Boyce **Key texts:** Orphans of the Tide by Struan Murray

Purpose for writing: Story setting and Newspaper article

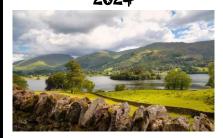
Writing: We will be looking at the features of both story settings and newspapers and working towards creating our own story setting linked to our text and a newspaper article relating to a key event in it. We will be particularly working on developing writing flair and stamina.

Reading: Our whole class reading will be based on our class reader and include wider curriculum reading. We will focus on all comprehension skills including fluency and understanding a range of vocabulary.

Spelling: We will practise our spelling patterns in school learning rules and patterns and continuing to use phonemic awareness to support.

I would love to see the children using spelling shed at home to practise the weekly spelling patterns to embed their learning.

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Maths

KIRFS: Year 5 – applying times tables to decimals, where one number is a

Year 6 – applying times tables tp decimals, where both numbers are decimals Fractions

We will continue to develop our understanding of fractions and calculating sums with fractions in them.

Ratio – year 6 only

This unit will focus on introducing ratios, linking them with fractions and learning to calculate ratios from given data.

Decimals and percentages

We will be building on previous knowledge to further enhance skills and understanind of these 2 key concepts.

Times tables:

The children will continue with Times table recall and practice in school and would benefit from as much time as possible practicing at home.

This unit will look at the different types of mountains, how they are formed and examples of each type from around the world. We will also look at the effects that humans can have on mountains.

Alongside this we will be looking at latitude and longitude lines and learning what they mean, as well as identifying some of the key ones.

General

Welcome back to school, I hope you have had a lovey Christmas and I wish you all a happy new year!

Homework:

- Daily reading (please record this in reading records)
- Daily times table practice on TT Rockstars or multiplication.co.uk or playing times table games
- Spelling practise on Spelling Shed

Snack: The children are very welcome to bring a healthy snack fruit/veg/healthy snack bar etc... in for morning breaks.

Water bottles: Please continue to send named water bottles each day.

PE days are Tuesdays and Thursdays, please could the children come to school in their PE kit on these days. Hair ties are needed for long hair too please.

Please feel free to come and see me in the playground before school or at the classroom door after school if you have any queries. Alternatively, email the office and I will get back to you as soon as I can.

I look forward to getting to know the children and working with them.

Science

Focus: Forces

This term we will be learning about gravity, air and water resistance and friction. The children will be doing lots of practical activities to develop their understanding. We will also be looking at how levers, pulleys and gears are used and how these effect the force being used.

Geography

Focus: Mountains