



Blessed John Duckett Catholic Primary School

Autumn Term 2022 Curriculum Overview

Fantastic Forests

Class 3 – Years 4, 5 & 6

Our topic, Fantastic Forests, will lead class three off in a number of avenues of exploration this term – from looking at wild places and landscapes, to botanical studies and how mankind interacts with the environment.

In English the children will be exploring a book shortlisted for a number of awards in 2019 – the House with Chicken Legs, by Sophie Anderson. We will also be reading and developing ideas based off the poem Ozymandias by Percy Shelly, and 'Stone Age Boy' by Satomi Kitimura. Over the course of the term, children will use sections of the text as a stimulus to write fiction and non-fiction pieces. In terms of grammar, children will learn about: nouns, noun phrases, pronouns and determiners; verbs and adverbial phrases; paragraphs and forms of punctuation; and specifically, about speech marks. A major focus of the term will be on handwriting and letter formation.

In Maths, the children will be consolidating prior learning and developing their understanding of: the place value of integers and fractional numbers; the way that they solve arithmetic calculations effectively and accurately; representations of fractions as parts of a whole and parts of a number larger than one, including using decimals and percentages; how to calculate perimeter and area of different regular and irregular shapes; and statistics. As a class, the children will be practicing their rapid recall of their multiplication tables throughout the year.

In Art, the children will learn about Gertrude Jekyll and her contribution to the art and beauty of England's horticulture and applying that in paint. They will learn to draw landscapes and to build composite pictures using tracing and transfer techniques. Children's use of watercolours will be explored in preparation for a final display piece of artwork.

In Geography, children will compare two biomes – the temperate deciduous forest biome (of say, Tow Law) with the Tropical Rainforest biome of South America. Children will: use maps to understand longitude and latitude, identifying the equator and tropics on maps and the globe; use graphs and charts to interoperate climate differences in the two biomes; understand the adaptations of flora and fauna found in the rainforest; discuss man's impact on the environment and ways that mankind can sustainably manage rainforests.

In History, children will be learning about the prehistoric ages from the Palaeolithic to the Bronze Age, developing their understanding of the development of man and his closest relatives. They will examine primary and secondary sources for evidence of what people were like in prehistory, looking specifically at the settlement in Skara Brae and the edifice of Stonehenge.

In Music, children will understand what a beat/pulse is and how the rhythm interacts with it, developing their own musical arrangements on their own and in groups. In P.E. the class will learn how to play Tag Rugby and apply tactical thinking to their efforts to attack or defend in any invasion game. After half term, this will change to gymnastics, where the children will develop a precise movement routine based on our work in English.

In Computing, children will learn about the sharing of images online and the inherent dangers of doing so unwisely. They will develop their use of computers as tools to present and learn in other subjects. Excitingly, they will also develop their own mathematical calculation machines using Scratch, variables and inputs.

In Science, we will examine how life is interconnected, looking at the reproduction of flowers as well as the different reproductive traits of monotremes, marsupials and placental mammals. An examination of food webs and how humans can interfere with them will help build on the knowledge of the nutrient cycle in Geography.

In D.T, children will evaluate bags using specific design criteria and come up with their own success criteria for what makes a good bag. They will design a bag, thinking about what sort of templates they will use and what sort of stitch they will fasten their bag with before completing a methodology. They will construct and evaluate the finished product.

In MFL, we will be learning the French for greetings, numbers and other basics as well as looking at the phonemes used in French words. We will be taking an in-depth look at families in French.

