



Being safe, being respectful, being *our* best

## Earith Primary School: Curriculum Newsletter



**Class: Morpurgo**  
**Term: Autumn 1**

### English:

Our key text for this half term is called '*Kensuke's Kingdom*' written by Michael Morpurgo. We will use this text to support and develop our writing, which will include writing to discuss and writing to entertain. We will also focus on the transcriptional aspects of writing – such as handwriting and spelling – to ensure that our writing is well-presented, with accurate spelling and punctuation. We will also practise using a range of ambitious language within our writing so that we develop a greater consideration of the reader.

**Reading** – both taught reading and reading for pleasure will be a key feature of our learning. This will involve whole texts and extracts, focusing on key reading skills to ensure fluency and comprehension of ideas. We will focus on a deeper level of understanding within a text, looking at inference, authorial intent and focusing on language choices.

### Maths:

During the first part of the term, we will focus on number and place value – recapping and revising key number facts, in order to support a deeper mathematical learning. We will then focus on decimals – focusing on tenths and hundredths. We will also focus on formal methods for addition, subtraction and multiplication. This will support children when they delve deeper into problem-solving and open-ended problems. Within all of our mathematics learning, children will revisit key ideas from previous units to ensure learning is fully embedded. We will also focus on daily retrieval practice of times tables facts to ensure that they can be recited 'off by heart' and are used fluently within mathematical problems.

### Science:

In science, the class will be studying the human body and, more specifically, the circulatory system. During this unit, children will learn that the heart and blood vessels are parts of our circulatory system and that our circulatory and respiratory systems

keep us alive. They will learn the different parts of the heart and their purpose, as well as the function of arteries, veins and capillaries. They will also learn that blood is made up of different components, including plasma. They will discover the function of red blood cells, white blood cells and platelets. Children will learn about the important role the lungs play in oxygenating blood, a process that is vital for life. When working scientifically, they will investigate how exercise affects pulse rate.

### **History:**

Our topic for this half term is 'The British Empire'. Within this topic, we will learn about what an empire is, and how and why Britain built an empire. We will learn how the East India Company was able to gain political control in India, and how India changed under British rule. We will also learn about the 'Seven Years War' and how other European countries fought to build their own empires.

### **Geography:**

Our topic for this half term is 'Spatial Sense'. Within this topic, we will learn about how cartographers divide our world into sections to design and organise maps. We will recap on different types of maps such as Ordnance Survey maps and contour maps, and will practise our map-reading skills. We will also recap on scale and coordinates – relating to map-reading.

### **Religious Education:**

R.E this term will be focusing on how people represent their faith. Within this, we will learn about how peoples' faith – focusing on faith-groups around the world. We will learn about how our faith or world-view is shaped, and how some people represent their faith.

### **PSHE:**

This term in PSHE, we will focus on *Zones of Regulation* which is a framework that helps us recognise and manage our emotions. We will learn that everyone experiences a range of feelings and that these can affect how we think, feel, and behave. We will also focus on 'Rights and Responsibilities'. Within this, we will learn about our own rights, and how these are also linked to our responsibilities. We will learn and discuss how our personal responsibilities can affect others, and how manners and courtesy are vital for our future lives. Our key school values (5 Rs) will continue to be a constant presence throughout all of our learning.

### **Art:**

In art, the class will be studying the Renaissance period, which took place in Italy from about 1400 and was influenced by the rediscovery of classical art and culture at that time. They will be investigating some of the work of Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Brunelleschi, Raphael and Jan Van Eyck. They will have the opportunity to sketch using art pencils; create frescos from plaster of Paris and draw landscapes using linear perspective.

### **PE:**

**Indoor PE** will focus on dance. Within this unit, we learn about different types of dance - such as jiving, rock 'n' roll and the twist. By learning these key dance styles, we will work together to choreograph and perform routines.

**Outdoor PE** will focus on the game of football. We will develop dribbling skills, marking techniques and moving with the ball. We will learn and develop our understanding of the rules of the game, and focus on balance, agility and good sportsmanship.

### **Music:**

In music, we will be exploring the music used in film to accompany the action and create atmosphere. The class will identify how different styles of music and instruments evoke different emotions and contribute to the feel of a film. They will learn to use the terms 'major' and 'minor' when describing music and identify the pitch, tempo and dynamics. In groups, the children will be composing their own musical score, using their bodies, voices and instruments to create sounds to represent a given theme.

### **Computing:**

In this unit, we will explore how data is transferred over the internet. We will initially focus on addressing, before we move on to the make-up and structure of data packets. We will then look at how the internet facilitates online communication and collaboration, before completing shared projects online. Finally, we will learn how to communicate responsibly, by considering what should and should not be shared on the internet.

### **Modern Foreign Language:**

Within French, children will continue to develop their oral sentence structure and pronunciation. They will recap on previously taught topics, before moving onto giving instructions, sports and hobbies, and counting.

### **Big Questions for the Half Term:**

**History** – How did Britain build an empire?

**Geography** – How are maps organised?

**Science** - What is the circulatory system and how does it keep us alive?

**RE** – How do people represent their faith in the community?

**Art** – What was art like in the Renaissance period and who were the most significant artists of that time?

**PHSE** – What are our rights and responsibilities?

**Computing** – What do we need to know when communicating over the internet?

**Music** - How is music used in film to create emotion and atmosphere?

### **Big Vocabulary for the Half Term:**

**History** – Empire, imperial, trade, monarchy, chronology, colony/colonies

**Geography** – contour, relief, hemispheres, parallels, meridian, cartographer.

**RE** – Islam, Muslim, Sikhism, Sikh, world-view

**Art** – Medieval, renaissance, classical, humanism, proportion, anatomy, optics, sfumato, linear perspective, vantage point.

**PHSE** – rights, responsibilities, British values, liberty, tolerance, law, democracy.

**Computing** – Communication, protocol, data, address, Internet Protocol (IP) address, Domain Name Server (DNS), data packets, data payload.

**Science** – circulatory system, transport, atria, ventricles, valves, aorta, veins, arteries, capillaries, pulse rate

**Music** – Composition, dynamics, emotion, major key, minor key, soundtrack, pitch, tempo, sound effects.

### **Other Information:**

Please ensure that children come to school with a water bottle (filled) each day. This is **essential** to keep hydrated.

PE days will be on a Tuesday and Friday. Outdoor PE will be on a Friday and indoor PE will be on a Tuesday.