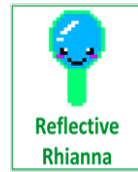




Being safe, being
respectful, being *our* best



Earith Primary School: Curriculum Newsletter Class: Gold Class



Term: Autumn Term 2

English:

Our key text for this half term is titled '*Room 13*' written by Robert Swindells. We will use this text to support and develop our writing, which will include - writing to persuade, writing to entertain and writing to discuss. We will continue to have a strong focus on spelling - to ensure that all writing is at a year 5/6 standard. Within the transcriptional aspects of writing, we will also continue with handwriting practice and how to embed a wider range of punctuation within our writing. 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 recap on key learning from last term – using formal methods for multiplication, and using these skills to solve more complex mathematical problems. We will then focus on using formal division methods to solve problems. Finally, we will focus on solving problems involving fractions – looking at equivalent fractions, fractions of amounts, and using the four operations within fraction 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, we will be focusing on electricity. In this unit, we will use symbols to represent components of a circuit including batteries, wires, bulbs and switches. The class will learn about the importance of switches for conserving energy and for safety reasons and will build their understanding of batteries and their voltage. They will learn that adding more batteries to a circuit can increase the brightness of a bulb. In this unit, children will design, make and evaluate an electrical device, using materials such as wires, batteries, buzzers and switches. They will work scientifically to consider the purpose for which they are designing their device and what it must be capable of.

History:

Our topic for this half term is 'The Transatlantic Slave Trade'. Within this topic, we will look at how and why the forced migration of Africans took place, and how enslaved Africans were treated. We will consider the 'Atlantic Passage' and what life was like for enslaved Africans who worked on plantations. We will also learn about the African resistance – including the Haitian Revolution, before learning about the abolition of slavery.

Geography:

Our topic for this half term is called 'Mountains'. Within this topic, we will learn about plate tectonics – to understand how/why mountains form. We will study a variety of mountain ranges, such as The Alps, The Himalayas, The Rockies, The Andes and Mount Kilimanjaro (as a dormant volcano). Within this topic, we will learn about environments within high altitudes, and consider the remoteness of mountainous areas.

Religious Education:

R.E this term will be focusing on how Hindus represent their faith. Within this, we will learn about key beliefs which bind the Hindu faith, and how the religion is practiced by different sections of society. We will also make comparisons between Hinduism and other faiths – focusing on morality and spirituality.

PSHE:

Our topics for this half term will focus on 'Anti-bullying'. Within this, we will learn about the characteristics of bullying, including cyberbullying and prejudiced-related bullying. We will explore why bullying happens, including why a person may engage in bullying. We will also discuss how peer pressure affects a situation and understand the term 'bystander' in a potential bullying situation. Our whole school values (5 Rs and Behaviour Code) will continue to be a constant presence throughout all of our learning.

Art:

This unit builds on the children's knowledge of the renaissance from work from last half-term. We will continue to focus on the work of the architect Brunelleschi, and his design for the dome of Florence cathedral and will make pencil sketches of the building. We will then study the works of renaissance sculptures by Ghiberti and Donatello. Through these works, we explore the concept of relief sculpture. We will

also revisit the work of Michelangelo but focus on his sculptures rather than his paintings. We will learn that he also worked as an architect and was partly responsible for the design for St Peter's Basilica in Rome. The children will use their drawings of Florence cathedral to undertake an extended project to design and make a relief sculpture out of clay.

PE:

Indoor PE will focus on dance. Within this unit, we will practise the different skills within dance, such as coordination, symmetry and gymnastics. By learning these key dance skills, we will work together to choreograph and perform routines.

Outdoor PE will focus on the game of football. We will continue developing the skills of: marking techniques, ball control, coordination and utilising all of the space on the pitch. 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 focus on performing Christmas songs for the school production. The children will learn several songs off-by-heart and will be taught how to sing with the correct tone, tempo and pitch. They will learn how to perform live with confidence and a sense of the audience.

DT:

In DT, the class will be making their own 'water walls' for the reception class. They will research and investigate water walls and pulleys; design and develop ideas, create annotated drawings and prototypes; make their design with recycled objects and evaluate their product.

Computing:

This unit will focus on video-making, and will give us the opportunity to learn how to create short videos, within small groups. We will develop essential skills such as capturing, editing, and manipulating videos. We will also work together to investigate the use of different devices and software. Using the skills taught, we will use our initial ideas, and develop them – from conception to completion.

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 parts of the body, and then onto learning about Christmas in France!

Big Questions for the Half Term:

History – What was the transatlantic slave trade?

Geography – What do we know about mountain ranges around the world?

Science – How do all the components in an electrical circuit work?

RE – What is important to Hindus?

Art – Who were the famous sculptors of the Renaissance period and what did they create?

PHSE – What is bullying and what are our responsibilities?

Computing – What skills do we need to make a suitable video production?

Music – How do singers perform successfully to an audience?

DT – What are the steps, in DT, to create products?

Big Vocabulary for the Half Term:

History – slave, transatlantic, plantation, abolition, colonialism, mutiny, Atlantic Passage.

Geography – Summit, Ranges, Peak, Alps, Himalayas, Otzi, Eiger, Mont Blanc.

RE – Hindu, Hinduism, Shiva, Brahman, Diwali, Ganish, Mandir, Rama, Shiva, Shrine.

Art – Florence, duomo, baptistery, relief, casting, guild, flattened relief, linear perspective, architect, Pope, Vatican City, classical, Belvedere, Torso, contrapposto, marble, Pietà, carve, St Peter's Basilica, realistic, drapery, marble.

PHSE – Rights, Responsibilities, British values, Bullying, Bystander.

Computing – Lens, Mid-Range, Long-Shot, High Angle, Normal Angle, Moving Subject.

Science – electricity, circuit, current, components, energy, insulator, conductor, series circuit, short circuit, volts, voltage, cell, battery, data logger, Electrical Engineer, switch

Music – pitch, tone, tempo, audience, performance, chorus, verse, arrangement, bridge, melody.

DT – Archimedes screw, pulley, water wall, research, design, prototype, evaluate.

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 continue to be on a Monday and Thursday. Outdoor PE will be on a Monday and indoor PE will be on a Thursday.

Weekly spelling assignments will be uploaded to Spelling Shed, which follow the Year 5/6 programme of study.

Weekly homework task (from GCP) books, are given out on a Thursday and due in the following Wednesday.

All homework tasks (including daily reading & TT Rockstars), support and align with your child's learning within the classroom.