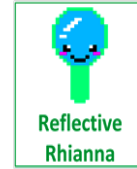




Being safe, being
respectful, being *our* best



Earith Primary School: Curriculum Newsletter Class: Gold Class



Term: Spring Term 2

English:

Our key text for this half term is titled '*Street Child*' written by Berlie Doherty. We will use this text to support and develop our writing, which will include writing to entertain and writing to discuss. We will continue to embed a wide range of punctuation within our writing to ensure that all of our writing is well structured. Furthermore, we will plan, edit and revise our writing to ensure consideration is given to the reader. Within the transcriptional aspects of writing, we will continue with handwriting practice and will also continue to have a strong focus on spelling – to ensure that all writing is at a year 5/6 standard.

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 continue to solve problems involving the conversion of measures. Following this, we will focus on solving problems with angles, shape, area and perimeter. Throughout the term, we will focus on daily retrieval practice to ensure all children are fluent with the mathematical operations and concepts taught so far – ensuring that all learning is fully embedded. We will also focus on daily retrieval practice of times table facts to ensure that they can be recited 'off by heart' and are used fluently within mathematical problems.

Science

This half term, children will be learning about forces – building on their knowledge of forces as 'pushes and pulls'. Children will learn that forces can make things increase

their speed, reduce their speed, change direction or change shape. They will also study gravity, friction, air resistance and water resistance - looking at ways in which all of these forces act upon objects such as parachutes, boats and footballs. Furthermore, children will work scientifically to plan and undertake an investigation to see how water and air resistance act in opposition to gravity. Finally, children will have the opportunity to research scientists who have contributed to our understanding of forces such as Isaac Newton.

History:

Our topic for this half term is 'The Victorians'. This topic will build upon children's prior topics/knowledge of the Slave Trade, Industrialisation and The British Empire. Within this topic, we will learn about the life of Queen Victoria – especially her involvement within the British Empire. Children will also learn about the social aspects of Victorian Britain – comparing the lives of the rich and poor. Children will also learn about The Great Exhibition and the growth in technology. We will also consider the legacy of the Victorians and begin to compare this with life in Britain today.

Geography:

This half term, children will be learning about Australia. Within this topic, children will identify key settlements and identify biomes and rivers. Children will also learn that Australia is a very diverse country – encompassing deserts, tropical rainforests, mountains and rivers. Using population maps, children will locate areas of dense population and major settlements, and how unreliable rainfall causes problems for people who depend on irrigation and farming. Finally, we will learn about Aboriginal people, who have lived on the continent for thousands of years, and how these populations suffered following discovery by British explorers.

Religious Education:

R.E this term will be focusing on how Christianity has evolved within Britain, over the past 2000 years. Within this, we will learn about how Britain became a Christian nation; how Christianity changed from Catholicism to Church of England, and how our views and opinions have changed since this time. Children will also learn about the key beliefs which bind the Christian faith, but also understand Christianity as a broad faith, with people following their faith in different ways.

PSHE:

Our topics for this half term will focus on 'Healthier and Safer Lifestyles'. Within this, we will learn about children's understanding of medicines, alcohol and nicotine – focusing on their effects on the brain and body. This unit will also explore children's awareness of solvents, illegal drugs and laws relating to the sale and possession of drugs. Within all of their learning, children will learn how to avoid and reduce harm with regards to medication.

Art:

This unit will focus on the designer, William Morris, as a key figure in the Arts and Crafts movement. Children will learn about how his designs were based on nature, bearing the influence of Islamic design. Children will also learn how Morris' wallpaper

designs were produced by block printing and will create their own Morris-inspired designs.

PE:

Indoor PE will focus on gymnastics. Within this unit, children will practice skills such as balance, coordination and developing core strength. Children will also work together to choreograph and perform routines.

Outdoor PE will focus on the game of rugby. 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 Pop Art music. Within this, children will learn about musical eras in context, identifying how they have influenced each other, and discussing the impact of different composers on the development of musical styles. Children will also learn about pitch, dynamics and the stylistic features of music – relating it to other aspects of the Arts. Furthermore, children will compose a multi-layered piece of music, with voices and instruments.

DT:

In DT, the class will be making their own bags. This will involve the process of designing and making, ensuring that it is functional and appealing. Children will learn how to cut, shape, join and shape, using a wide range of materials and components. After completion, children will evaluate their own products and consider ways to improve their work.

Computing:

This unit is called 'Bletchley Park' and will focus on the history of computers and how they have evolved over time. Children will write increasingly complex algorithms for a purpose, and learn how to debug quickly and effectively – in order to make a program more efficient. Children will also adapt a program, in order to personalise it, and evaluate code to understand its purpose.

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 discussing clothes and uniforms.

Big Questions for the Half Term:

History – What happened during the Victorian era?

Geography – What do we know about Australia?

Science – How do forces work?

RE – How has Christianity changed over time?

Art – What methods did William Morris use to produce his artwork?

PHSE – How can I keep myself healthy?

Computing – What makes coding effective?

Music – What's different about the *Pop Art* style of music?

DT – What are the steps, in DT, to create a functional bag?

Big Vocabulary for the Half Term:

History – Victorian, industrialisation, monarchy, imperialism parliament, empire, slum, urbanisation, poor law, workhouse, Great Exhibition.

Geography – River Murray, River Darling, diverse, desert, rainforest, tropical, James Cook, colonise, penal colony, savannah, temperate, biome, biodiversity, marsupial, invasive.

RE – Christianity, reformation, protestant, world view, empire, renaissance, Martin Luther, paganism.

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, drug, legal, illegal.

Computing – Code, Bletchley Park, debugging, coding, input, output, algorithm, search engine.

Science – force, gravity, pulley, lever, friction, decrease, air resistance, upthrust, streamline, surface area, fulcrum, pivot, gear.

Music – pop art, pitch, tone, tempo, audience, performance, chorus, verse, arrangement.

DT – embroidery, research, design, prototype, evaluate.

Other Information:

PE will be on a Friday. This will include both indoor PE and outdoor PE. Please ensure your child has a suitable kit for all weathers.

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

Weekly *curriculum plus* learning (from GCP) books, are given out on a Thursday and due in the following Wednesday.

Gold Class trip to Cambridge (theatre, bookshop and museum) is on **Wednesday 13th March 2024.**