

Curriculum Newsletter

Onyx Class Year 5

Autumn 1: Ancient Benin



We hope that you all had a restful summer and are ready for the start of a new and exciting year as the newly rebranded Onyx Class!!!! Our topic this term is Ancient Benin. As part of this topic, we will be reading the book 'The Children of the Benin Kingdom' by Dinah Orji which follows the story of a girl who has an astonishing past and brings to light one of Africa's most fascinating civilisations. The children will be learning about the rise of the Kingdom of Benin, and how it became one of the wealthiest Kingdoms in Africa at the time. They will be learning about the ruling family including: their traditions, their beliefs and how they transmitted knowledge and history through their spoken culture.

Ideas for home learning:

- Create traditional African style repeating prints.
- Try traditional African / Benin food.
- Share traditional African food with the class if you have African heritage in your family
- Read traditional African / Benin stories and tales
- Collect new words relating to Ancient Benin the children can then share these in school!

Goldilocks words:

The Goldilocks words are the key vocabulary the children will learn, understand and be able to use by the end of the topic. They are called Goldilocks words as they are not too easy, not too hard, but just right!

Oba	empire
Continent	Bronze
Dynasty	Sacrifice
Kingdom	Reign
Civilization	Ogiso

RE

- To learn about Hindu Gods and beliefs.
- Explore what it means to be Hindu.
- Understand what makes each person unique.
- Hindus beliefs on right or wrong
- Explore the two main deities in Hindu religion (Rama & Krishna)
- Recognise that some mechanisms including levers, pulleys and gears allow a

PSHE

We will be learning about Being Me in My World through our Jigsaw scheme of work. We will be understanding how important and unique we are and how to celebrate and explore others peoples differences.

PE

In PE this term we will be doing Tag Rugby We will be exploring, throwing and catching skills and working on using our space effectively around us.

Computing

- Equip pupils with the knowledge, understanding and skills to use information and communication technology safely, creatively and purposefully.
 - We will be focusing on E- Safety - cyber bullying. Using Google Sites the children will research the effects of cyber bullying and then create a website on how to stay safe online and who to speak to if cyber bullying happens to them
- pulleys and gears allow a smaller force to have a greater effect.



English

We will be reading the text The Children of the Benin Kingdom and using this to write letters, diary entries, survival guides, eye witness reports and story summaries. This will all culminate into writing a non chronological report .

Science

In Science we will be investigating Forces and that unsupported objects fall towards the earth because of the force of gravity acting between the Earth and the object.

- Identify the effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction that act between moving surfaces.

-Recognise that some mechanisms including levers, pulleys and gears allow a smaller force to have a greater effect. We will be taking our learning further by going to the Science Museum on the 5th October. If you are available to help on that day, please come and see me.

Maths

We begin the term with a recap of place value, stretching our understanding to numbers of up to one million. After comparing and ordering numbers we will move on to rounding. Progressing through the term we will be developing our addition and subtraction skills to solve multi-step problems, before starting to build on our confidence with multiplication. Squeezed in along the way we will also have an investigation into Roman numerals!

Music

We will be continuing to develop our music skills with Music matters musicianship.

Topic

Our topic this term will be Ancient Benin. We will be discussing and creating African style artefacts.
Exploring key events in African history and how the kingdom of Benin was formed.
Exploring what the people of Benin believed in.
Researching and exploring the Benin art and sculptures.
Explore the power of the kingdom of Benin and how and why the empire ended.