



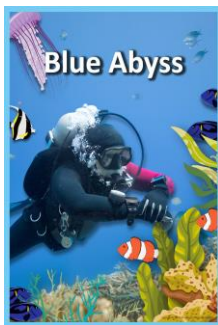
Rye Community Primary School

"A Gateway to learning"



Dear Orcas,

After a wet and windy half-term holiday we are ready to start a wet topic: The Blue Abyss. For this topic we are in the process of finalising details for a trip to the aquarium. If there are any parents willing to volunteer to join us on this trip, then please let the school office know. The trip will take place on 24th March. More details to follow.



Term 4 Learning in Orcas

This half term the children will be exploring the oceans, seas and waterways. We will continue to develop our map skills in Geography and we will be learning about different layers of the ocean. In science we will be looking at habitats and how humans and other animals affect the habitat of living things. We will also look at how humans impact the environment and how we can help to protect it.

English

Our class texts this term are 'Flotsam' by David Weisner, 'Selkie' by Gillian McClure and 'Can you catch a mermaid' by Jane Ray. These are all picture books, which we have chosen to help develop the quality of the children's sentences and overall narrative. Our writing focus is on dilemmas in narrative, direct and indirect speech. We will also write poetry. Our grammar focus will be apostrophes and using dialogue in narrative writing. We will also be revisiting word classes.

How you can help your child

- Make sure your child reads daily. Ask if your child can summarise the main events. Check these are in the correct chronological order. Remember to complete the reading record as evidence.
- With the topic in mind, do you know anyone who has diving experience? Can they share their adventures with your child or even the whole class?!
- Discuss meanings of any new vocabulary they come across.
- Practise the spellings that are sent home weekly.

Mathematics

We will continue learning and developing our multiplication and division skills. We will start by learning the 11 and 12 times tables and then using our knowledge of the multiplication and division facts to develop our skills using written methods to multiply and divide increasingly bigger numbers. We will use our skills to find the area of rectilinear shapes, before we start exploring and calculating with fractions.



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How you can help your child

- Look for opportunities to talk about maths in the everyday environment. The learning overview hand-out from 'Meet the Teacher' may help with this.
- Support your child and give them time to use mental calculation skills in real life contexts.
- Encourage your child to spend 10 minutes each day learning the times tables on TTRockstars.

Science

Our science topic this term is 'All Living Things'. We are going to learn about life processes, habitats and food chains; for this we want to build dioramas with the children. Could you please provide a shoebox sized box for your child to use? Thank you.

PE

PE will be taught by Mr Sayer on a **Monday** afternoon. Please ensure that your child has a named PE kit in school. Thank you.

Termly Homework Project

This term we would like you to choose one project (or more if you would like!) from the attached list over the page.

Important dates:

World Book Day: 5th March 2020 – dress up day
Trip to Blue Reef Aquarium: w/c 23rd March 2020 – letter to follow
Learning celebration: 2nd April 2020 – 2.15pm

If you have any queries do not hesitate to contact us.

Mrs Smout and Miss Leach



What will you choose to do?

- Why is the ocean blue? Go on... find out!
- How many amazing shark facts can you find? Build them into a PowerPoint presentation to show the rest of the class. Remember to include images and perhaps some video clips too.
- Write a 'true or false' quiz with fascinating facts about creatures and plants under the sea.
- Create fact cards about the creatures of the Great Barrier Reef in a Top Trumps style.
- Create a picture dictionary of plants and creatures of the ocean.
- Visit your local library and find non-fiction books about the oceans and seas. Use them to find out about the sea creatures of the world. Look for information using contents pages, glossaries and index pages. Write down any new facts you have learnt, and share them with your class.
- Use the web with an adult to find out about famous undersea explorers, such as Robert Ballard, Sylvia Earle, William Beebe and James Cameron. Record your information to share with the class.
- Draw the view of the ocean you might see if looking through the window of a submersible.
- Design an 'under the sea' board game. What creatures might your counters represent?
- Write a story about a diver's exploration of a coral reef.
- Learn The Beatles' song, *Yellow Submarine*, and write a new verse of your own.
- Write a poem about the creatures living in the blue abyss. It might be an acrostic, shape, haiku, cinquain or free verse poem.
- Research how to scuba dive and write a set of instructions for a new diver.
- Make a tourist leaflet for people visiting Australia's Great Barrier Reef.





crustacean

An arthropod with a hard shell and several pairs of legs, such as a crab, lobster or shrimp.

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current

The continuous flow of water in a particular direction.

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diversity

Variability among living organisms.

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echinoderm

A marine invertebrate with normally five equal body parts arranged around its centre, such as a starfish or sea urchin.

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fish

A cold-blooded aquatic vertebrate that has a scaly body, gills, fins and a tail.

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food chain

A series of living things that depend on each other as a source of food.

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habitat

A natural environment where animals and plants live.

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invertebrate

An animal with no backbone, such as an arthropod or crustacean.

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mammal

A warm-blooded vertebrate, the female of which gives birth to live young and feeds them milk.

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marine

Of or relating to the sea.

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mollusc

An invertebrate with a soft body that is usually protected by a hard shell, such as a snail or octopus.



abyss

A layer of the ocean between 4000–6000 m deep.

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adaptation

A change in an organism that allows it to better suit its environment.

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algae

A simple, plant-like organism that does not have ordinary roots, stems or leaves and grow in water.

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annelid

Worms that have bodies made up of rings or segments.

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aquarium

A glass container in which plants and aquatic animals are kept, or a building made up of numerous aquariums.

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aquatic

Living in, growing in, or happening in water.

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arthropod

An invertebrate that has jointed limbs, a hard shell and a segmented body, such as a crab or insect.

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bioluminescent

A creature or plant that creates its own light.

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cnidarian

An aquatic invertebrate that has stinging tentacles, such as a sea anemone or jellyfish.

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consumer

An animal that eats plants (producers) or other animals (prey) for food.

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coral

A hard, rock-like substance made by polyps as an external skeleton. Large coral islands or reefs can form in warm seas.



ocean

A very large area of sea. There are five oceans on the planet: Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Arctic and Southern (Antarctic).

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oceanography

The scientific study of the oceans and everything in them.

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organism

An individual animal, plant, fungus or bacteria.

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pollution

The damage caused to an environment when toxic or harmful substances are introduced.

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polyp

A small marine invertebrate that has a tube-shaped body and stinging tentacles around its mouth.

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predator

An animal that kills and eats other animals for food.

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prey

An animal that is hunted by other animals for food.

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producer

An organism, such a green plant, that creates its own food.

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reef

A long line of rocks, coral or sand that form just below the ocean's surface.

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reptile

A cold-blooded vertebrate that breathes air, lays eggs and is covered in scales, such as a snake or turtle.

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sea anemone

A carnivorous marine animal that looks like a colourful plant. It clings to rocks and stings small fish with its tentacles.



sea urchin

A small marine echinoderm that has a hard, round, spiny shell.

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seaweed

A brown, green or dark red plant that is made up of algae and grows in or next to the sea.

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sonar

Specialist equipment found on ships that uses sound waves to measure water depth and to find the position of underwater features, such as rocks or shoals of fish.

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species

A group of animals or plants that share the same characteristics and can breed with each other.

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specimen

An individual animal or plant that can be used for scientific study or display.

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submarine

A streamlined ship that can travel underwater for long periods of time.

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tide

The rise and fall of the oceans that is caused by the gravitational pull of the Sun and the Moon. There are usually two high tides and two low tides each day.

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tropical

When the weather is hot and humid, or when something exists between the Tropics of Capricorn and Cancer.

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vertebrate

An animal with a backbone, such as a mammal, reptile or fish.

Maths

Fractions

- Equivalent fractions
- Fractions greater than 1
- Count in fractions
- Add 2 or more fractions with same denominator
- Subtract 2 fractions with same denominator
- Subtract from whole amounts
- Calculate fractions of a quantity
- Problem solving: calculate quantities

Decimals

- Recognise tenths and hundredths
- Tenths as decimals
- Tenths on a place value grid
- Tenths on a numberline
- Divide 1-digit by 10
- Divide 2-digits by 10
- Hundredths
- Hundredths as decimals
- Hundredths on a place value grid
- Divide 1 or 2-digits by 100

English

Book study - picture books: Flotsam, Selkie, Can you catch a mermaid?

Reading

- Listen to and discuss a wide range of fiction, poetry, plays, non-fiction and reference books or textbooks
- Identify themes and conventions in a wide range of books
- Draw inferences and justify these
- Predict what might happen from details stated and implied
- Identify main ideas and themes
- Identify how language, structure and presentation contribute to meaning

Writing

- poetry: tankas and cinquains
- narrative stories focusing on dilemmas

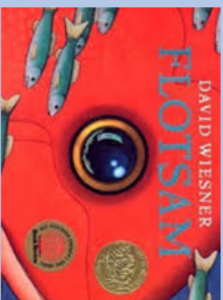
Grammar, punctuation and spelling

- Capital letters
- Colons
- Indirect and direct speech
- Modifying adjectives and nouns
- Prepositional phrases
- Word families

RE

- Abraham
- The story of the Garden of Gethsemane

Year 4 - Term 4 Blue Abyss



Design technology

Making a submarine and a diorama

- Generate, develop, model and communicate their ideas through discussion, annotated sketches and cross-sectional diagrams.
- Select form and use a wider range of materials and components.
- Evaluate their ideas and products against their own design criteria and consider the views of others to improve their work

PSHE

core value - effort and engagement

- Healthy friendships
- Group dynamics
- Smoking and alcohol
- Celebrating inner strength and assertiveness

Computing

- Understand computer networks, including the internet
- Use search technologies effectively

History

Jacques Cousteau

Science - all living things and their habitats

- Know what a living thing is
- Recognise that living things can be grouped in different ways
- Explore and use classification keys
- Group, identify and name a variety of living things
- Recognise that environments can change and this can pose dangers to living things.

- French** - create a drawing in the style of Kandinsky
- Shapes
- Prepositions
- Bodyparts:** the face
- Geography** - human uses and physical features of the sea
- Using maps (digital and physical)
 - Layers of the oceans
 - Environmental issues in the oceans
 - Describing and understand key aspects of human geography