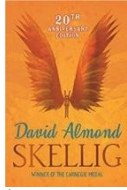




English: This term, our focus text will be 'Skellig' by David Almond. Whilst enjoying reading the text, we will continue to develop children's reading comprehension skills with a focus on retrieval, vocabulary, and inference. Using the text as a stimulus, we will write sustained and independent pieces. We will focus on genres including diary entries, non-chronological reports, informal letters, poetry, balanced arguments, and narratives. This term, we will continue to focus on developing cohesion, using paragraphs, subordinate and relative clauses, adverbial phrases, and parenthesis as well as working on our 'Brilliant Basics'. Handwriting will continue to be a focus throughout all our writing sessions, ensuring children are forming and joining letters correctly, making their writing is legible.



History/ Geography:

In the first half term, our topic will be 'What was life like in Tudor England?' Children will learn about Henry VIII using evidence from different sources. They will make deductions about Anne Boleyn and his other wives, evaluating which of his wives best met his requirements. Children will learn about and recreate Elizabeth's entrance into Worcester and look at the differences between the lives of the rich or poor. For the second half of term, we will be asking the question 'Would you like to live in a desert?' Children will learn about the characteristics of a hot desert biome, locate the largest deserts in each continent and describe ways the Mojave Desert is used. We will explore how humans use the desert and explain how human activity may contribute to the changing climate and landscape of a desert as well as some of the threats to deserts, benefits and drawbacks of living in a desert environment.



British Values:

Children will be learning all about Individual Liberty and Tolerance during spring term. Lessons will focus on what these words mean and how these values can be embedded into our everyday lives.



Maths:

In maths, children will continue work on fractions and begin work on decimals (knowing the value of tenths and hundredths) and how both link to percentages. Multiplication and division will be explored in further detail with a focus on using more formal written methods to calculate larger numbers. We will continue to: learn times tables, recalling both multiplication and division facts with speed and accuracy; practice efficient mental arithmetic strategies and develop mental methods for all four rules of number.



Science:

We will continue with our topic of 'Properties and Changes of Materials' Children will learn to: test the properties of materials; investigate dissolving and identify variables in an investigation; use solids, liquids and gases to decide how mixtures might be separated and sieve, filter and evaporate materials. We will also be studying 'Living Things and Their Habitats'. Children will be able to describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, amphibian, insect, and bird as well as describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals.



Computing:

Our topic during this term will be 'Programming'. The children will learn to control a simple circuit connected to the computer and write programs to do this. We will also continue to focus on Online Safety with lessons related to privacy and security and health, well-being, and lifestyle.



RE/PSHE:

In RE, the focus will be: **When, How and Why do Christians Pray?** and **What Difference does it Make?** This unit explores the meaning and practice of Christian prayer. We evaluate the power and impact of prayer, the value of praying for believers, and the relevance of prayer to those who do not have a religious faith. The focus for PSHE will be **Dreams and Goals** looking at our future dreams, the importance of money, jobs and careers and motivation to achieve. The second part of the term will focus on **Healthy Me** with a look at smoking, alcohol and anti-social behaviour, body image, our relationships with food and making healthy choices.



Art/ Design Technology:

Our focus for art this term will be 'Portraits' focusing on using paint and mixed media to design and develop self-portraits that represent our personalities and interests. This will include a visit to Wolverhampton Art Gallery to take part in a portraits masterclass.

In design technology, children will learn about mechanical systems that can be made from card and they will design and create their very own pop-up books based on a children's nursery rhyme.



PE:

Swimming lessons will continue for Year 5. 5WH will swim up until February half term and 5MC will start following this (further details will follow). Outdoor PE lessons will take place on **Thursday**. Indoor PE lessons take place on a **Friday** for the class who are not swimming. Units covered this term will include football and cricket, dance and gymnastics. Children are expected to wear suitable school P.E. kit as stated in the school policy.



Dates for your diary:

- 8th January – Term starts.
- 22nd/25th January -Year 5 Portraits Masterclass at Wolverhampton Art Gallery
- 7th Feb – Year 5 Performance to parents
- 8th Feb – School Disco
- WB 12th February - Half Term
- 4th March – INSET day
- 7th March - World Book Day
- 14th March - Parents' Consultation Evening
- 22nd March - Term Ends

