

Class Three

Curriculum Overview



'Wolves' - Summer Term
(To May 26th)

Tuesday 25th April 2017

Dear Parents,

I hope you have all enjoyed the Easter break and that the children managed to get a well-deserved rest. The next few weeks will bring a number of important events for the children, including Bikeability for the Year 5's and the end of Key Stage 2 Assessments for the Year 6's. The children have all been working really hard in preparation for these tests and once these are over, the last few months will fly by, especially with preparations for the summer show.

Both Mrs Hooijmeijer and I would like to say a tremendous thank you to all the parents who have helped with lifts to events and coming along to swimming and PE sessions; without you these activities would not be possible.

Here are some of the things that may be useful to know:-

- Your child should have a coat and outdoor shoes in school at all times and waterproof trousers must be worn if they want to play football at break and lunchtimes.
- When the sun comes out, we would also like the children to wear hats on the Common and you may consider applying sun cream before school.
- Please ensure that they have a pencil case and a school reading book in class every day.
- You will be informed when your child is ready to purchase a fountain pen from the school office, if they haven't already got their pen license.

Please feel free to pop in, if you have got any questions.

Mr Wedick

'Wolves' - The Curriculum

English

As we prepare for SATS week, the core focus of our English and topic sessions will be based around wolves. We will start by reading 'The Wolves of Currumpaw' by William Grill and we will think about the impact that the European settlers and hunters had on the wolf population in America during the late 1800's. We will analyse the main characters of King Lobo and Seton and will listen to famous speeches by people such as Martin Luther King, Gandhi and Winston Churchill, before writing our own rallying speeches, thinking about people who led inspirational lives. Having studied this novel, analysing some of the literary techniques used by William Grill, we will write formal and informal letters, capturing the emotional struggles faced by Ernest Thompson Seton and the way in which killing Old Lobo completely changed his life.

We will then move onto thinking about wolves today and how most people perceive these creatures. Considering the question, 'Should wolves be re-introduced into Scotland?' we will write our own balanced arguments and then debate our opinions in class.

The children will then be able to write some of their own independent pieces of writing based on wolves, carrying out their own research and turning their notes into their own work.

We will continue to have a daily spelling, grammar and handwriting session to boost our ability to recognise spelling patterns, add new words to our vocabulary and to spell trickier or unfamiliar words. The weekly spellings will be a continuation of what we have been learning in class and should be reinforced by being learnt and practised at home.

We will also continue to have daily guided reading sessions, during which the children will take part in a number of different activities.

Maths

In Mathematics, we will continue to develop our written methods for the four operations— addition, subtraction, multiplication and division — through various problem-solving activities in class, including solving some murder mysteries, which the children are already really enjoying.

We will also continue to develop our mental mathematics and our reasoning skills, working on our times tables and quick solving strategies in class.

PE

We will continue to use the REAL PE scheme in Class, with a focus on developing our creative skills. Our focus in our hall sessions will be on creativity, as we try to find creative ways to find solutions to difficult games and tasks, as well as creating our own versions of games we have been playing as a group.

During our sessions on the common, we will be developing our physical skills through track and field events, as we prepare for sports day at the start of June.

PE sessions will be on a Wednesday and Friday but please ensure that your child has their PE kit in school at all times, as the day may change due to weather conditions. Your child should also have outdoor shoes in school at all times and waterproof trousers must be worn if they want to play football at break and lunchtimes.

P4C (Philosophy for Children)

The focus of our philosophical enquires this half term will be 'Whose Land is it Anyway?' This will relate to our topic of wolves, as we think about the way in which our world has changed in the last 100 years, which has dramatically affected

our wolf population, as well as many other species of animals and plants. We will consider the work of environmentalists and conservationists and the possible re-introduction of wolves to Scotland, before trying to answer the question of who has the right to live on the land in the first place.

Useful Websites

Maths

<http://www.mathletics.co.uk/> - This is an award winning website which allows your child to log in and play maths games against different children from around the world. There are hundreds of different maths activities and problem solving areas for your child to work on, where they can score points and win virtual prizes and certificates. Your child should now have their log in, meaning that they can access this at school and at home.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/maths/> - The BBC has a fantastic website called Bitesize, which breaks down different areas of mathematical understanding into small chunks, including fun games and activities and short quizzes. We sometimes use the site in class, so your child should be familiar how to navigate around the site.

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/maths/> - This is a superb website that has a huge range of games, puzzles and maths questions for your child to work on at home. The website is even broken down into different mathematical areas, so if there is a particular area of maths that your child needs more work on, for instance fractions, then there are lots of ways in which they can practise at home. The site also has a number of times table tests that your child can work on.

English

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/english/> - This is the English part of the BBC's free Bitesize resources. The site contains helpful revision sections on different strands of English and also has lots of fun games, activities and quizzes.

<http://www.morewords.com/> - This is a really useful website for working on spellings and spelling patterns with your child. There are also links to lots of word games that your child can play at home, which will no doubt help to improve their spelling accuracy.

<http://www.wordtamer.co.uk/> - A really useful website if your child is thinking of writing a story at home and is stuck for ideas or is reluctant to get started. The site takes you through a deserted fairground, where you can work on different elements of story writing e.g. developing characters, describing settings etc and ultimately, write a story of your own.

Science

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/science/> - This is the Science part of the BBC's free Bitesize resources. The site contains helpful revision sections on different scientific areas and also has lots of fun games, activities and quizzes.