



PARKLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL
PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER
Friday 20th January 2023

Curriculum

Reception- Motion in the Ocean



We begin 2023 and Spring Term 1 by delving into life under the sea with our new topic, Motion of the Ocean. Within this topic we will be looking at different types of aquatic life and how we as humans can protect our seas and oceans. As a result, we will have a focus on geography, eco-science and conservation this term alongside the other areas of our curriculum. We will be focussing on two brilliant books, Sea by Britta Teckentrup and Alba the 100-year-old fish by Lara Hawthorne to help us learn about marine life and what we can do to protect our oceans

Year 1- The Victorians

This term Year 1 are exploring the Victorian Era, learning about Queen Elizabeth I and her reign and significant events that happened during this; as well as lifestyles, schooling and Christmas! We will be comparing all the monarchs we have learnt about and exploring how they are similar and different. Schooling was very different in



Victorian times and we will spend a day immersing ourselves in a Victorian school experience, noting the contrasts to modern day teaching. We will also compare the lifestyles of the rich and poor, and compare our own Christmas celebrations to those from 1837. We hope to finish with a Victorian celebration day which will involve dressing up and living life as if we were part of the Victorian era- more information on this will follow.

Year 2- The Spice Trail

This term in Year 2, we are beginning our bright and vibrant new Geography topic! We will begin our learning exploring the continent and oceans; using maps and atlases to locate and identify places all over the world. Then, we will zoom into the country of India and discover what life is like in Asia. We're going to delve into what life is like in India; tasting new foods, identifying different animals and celebrating their lifestyles. We will also be celebrating the magic of Bollywood; taking part in an exciting dance workshop to perform our own routine!



Year 3- Out of Africa



This term, Year 3 will be completing the topic, 'Out of Africa.' We will be looking at everything Africa, including where it is, the names of its countries and the features of these countries. Without hopping on a plane, we will be getting as close to Africa as possible by using our hi-tech VR headsets alongside traditional atlas and map reading techniques. This will help us discover all the wonders hidden within this amazing continent. We will be delving in to African Rainforests and African Savannah and investigating the animals and plants that thrive in these environments. Alongside side expanding our geographical knowledge we will be working on our artistic skills to create stunning African landscapes.

Year 4- The Extremes

This term, Year 4 have an exciting term with our first topic 'Life on the edge: Extreme Deserts' where we will be focusing on both Arctic and desert biomes across the world. Children will be given the opportunity to explore these diverse biomes using our VR headsets to then record their initial observations of the environments and forming their own questions that they wish to discover the answers to before moving onto refining their skills in using maps and atlases to locate extreme biomes around the globe. As the term goes on, the children will dive into lifestyles of humans in both the desert and the Arctic which will involve an Arctic day where children will learn about some of the life aspects of the Indigenous people who live in the Arctic. The children of Year 4 will then continue to develop their computing and research skills where they will look to find out more about the climate of the extreme biomes





Year 5- Latin America



This term, year 5 has another exciting topic: Latin America! This topic will start this Friday with its own art day where we will explore the beauty that is Latin American art so prepared to be wowed! In addition, this topic will also be focusing on musical instruments and their role within the culture of South America by planning, designing and creating their own musical instruments where we hope to show case their musical skills to the rest of the Parklands Community. Not only will the children be exploring South American music we will also be exploring and creating clay sculptures inspired by Mesoamerican

artwork with Aztec influences. This is going to be a very creative topic and we are all eager to get stuck in!

Year 6- Vietnam



This term Year 6 will continue their wonderful work on Vietnam, with a particular focus on Geography. The children will initially use maps, globes and Google Earth to investigate the main continents and their respective countries. We will learn how to read maps using grid references and experiment with compasses. Looking more closely at the Geography of Vietnam, the children will investigate the main rivers, cities, landscape and climate. We will finish by linking all of this lovely knowledge to human geography by finding out how the physical aspects of the country impact on homes, jobs and food production.

We look forward to an exciting term ahead!

Families in Partnership meeting

Thank you to everyone who joined our recent families in Partnership meeting. We will soon be announcing the date of our next meeting. The Families in Partnership meetings are open to ALL parents and family members, it is a chance to speak with Myself and our CEO, as well as our school parent representatives, to discuss and share school ideas.

Sickness Absence

Just a little reminder for any sickness and or diarrhoea absence from school.

To prevent the spread of the sickness / diarrhoea you must keep your child at home for at least 48 hours after the last time they have been sick or had diarrhoea.

This is important to stop the spread of sickness and diarrhoea, and similar viruses like the norovirus to vulnerable people such as young children or the elderly.

If you would like more information on this, please see <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/diarrhoea-and-vomiting/>

Key dates

Wednesday 25th January – Year 5 / 6 netball
Wednesday 8th February – Year 3 class assembly – PM - Information to follow
Friday 10th February – Last day of term
Monday 20th February – start of Spring term 2

Have a wonderful weekend, everyone!