

# Inspiring Curriculum Newsletter

## Ospreys

Autumn Term 1

2016

Our Themes:

**AD 900 and What a Wonderful World**



*The study of non-European civilisations and a study of  
the natural world.*

**Our Key Values:**

Caring, Commitment to Achieve, Co-operation,  
Happiness, Fairness, Respect



Welcome back after the summer break. We are beginning this year with an exciting history based topic – AD 900 – which the children are excited about already. Throughout this topic we will be learning about the Maya civilisation; their beliefs and way of life and the ancient city of Benin in West Africa. We will also taking a geographic study of the natural world in What a Wonderful World.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr Mullen

### **English**

In English, we will be focussing on handwriting, grammar and spelling to ensure skills are embedded; therefore, transferred to other area of the curriculum. The expectation will be that pupils will transfer their learning when writing to other subject areas to ensure a consistent display of skills.

Group guided reading sessions will continue to take place weekly; pupils will read regularly in class and will be expected to read regularly at home as regular reading impacts greatly on their ability to become effective writers.

### **Mathematics**

In Mathematics we will begin by reinforcing place value skills and being able to accurately add, subtract, multiply and divide so that these skills can be applied when problem solving. The focus on 'number' will continue into fractions which will include work on decimals and percentages.

As multiplication tables knowledge underpins many maths topics, the focus on these remains as important; please encourage your child to practise their tables at home.

Please continue to discuss real life maths with your children at home and when out and about (e.g. telling the time, when shopping, when baking) to reinforce the relevance and importance of having secure maths skills for their future lives.

### **Science**

Our science topic is - Evolution and Inheritance. Pupils will learn to recognise that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about the living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago. They will learn to recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, which normally vary and are not identical to their parents and how things have adapted to suit their environment in different ways thus evolving.

### **Computing**

The children will be learning computing skills through our computing scheme that enable pupils programme an engaging game on scratch.

### **PSHE**

This term's topic is – Being Me in My World. Pupils will learn to appreciate differences and embrace their own individual talents whilst respecting the talents and opinions of others.

### **P.E**

The subjects that the children will be taking part in during PE sessions will be Football, which will take place on a Friday afternoon, and swimming, which will take place on a Tuesday afternoon.

### **Music**

In music we will be exploring musical processes where pupils will learn about composition and timing and learn to sing and perform songs with a Solar System theme.

### **International Primary Curriculum**

During the term, the children will learn a range of skills through the topic theme.

For our exit day, the pupils will have an exciting feast and take part in an excellent code breaking activity.

#### **The historical skills pupils will learn are:**

- About the Maya from the buildings and artefacts they left behind
- How the Maya worshipped their gods
- How the Maya used glyphs for writing and counting
- Why the Maya empire declined
- What Benin City in West Africa might have looked like
- How to use different sources to find out about the Kingdom of Benin
- How the Edo/Benin people celebrate and worship
- What happened to the Kingdom of Benin
- Why the prophet Mohammad was so important to the Islamic civilisation
- About the achievements and inventions of the Golden Age of Islam
- Why the Islamic empire declined

The art skills pupils will learn are:

- How to make West African masquerade masks and costumes
- How to create Islamic art

### **Important Information**

As per the school homework policy, homework **will be given out on Thursdays** to be **returned** the following **Monday**.

Our **P.E** session will take place on **Friday** afternoons, so please ensure that the correct P.E kits are brought to school for these sessions, that long hair is tied back and that no jewellery is worn.

Pupils will **swim** weekly on **Tuesday afternoons**.

Please provide a small tub for jewellery if it is to be removed for sport sessions to prevent items getting misplaced.