

Courtney Primary Topic Sheet – Animal Kingdom
Year 5 Term 2 2018-19 Teacher: Mrs Elmore

English

“War Horse” by Michael Morpurgo is the absolutely stunning text we will be focusing our Guided Reading and English work on this term. It will allow us to explore the themes behind our history and science work side by side and I know the children are going to love it!

We will be working on different sentence structures and moving clauses around within our writing, to include relative and embedded clauses. We’ll also start to indicate degrees of possibility through the use of adverbs and modal verbs.

Finally, we will be exploring the difference between speech and writing, in order to develop formal language structures for different purposes e.g. persuasion.

Maths

After a very busy first term of maths, we’ve got lots more to come! At the beginning of the term we will continue to explore multiplication and division by finding factors and multiples of a number. We will also begin to explore prime, square and cube numbers.

Next, we will start to build on the work we did in Year 4 on perimeter and area – measuring, calculating and estimating are all skills we will apply.

Finally, we explore multiplication and division further using formal methods to multiply and divide 4-digit numbers.

As always there is a whole school focus on developing our children’s reasoning and problem solving skills.

Science

Our topic in science is ‘Living Things & Their Habitats’. It is the focus for our “Animal Kingdom” topic for the term!

The children will be learning about the difference in life cycles between birds, mammals, amphibians and insects. This will allow us to find differences and similarities between them.

In order to build on this further, we will then describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals.

We will look at the work of the famous primatologist Jane Goodall, who is an expert on chimpanzees!

RE

Our question for this term is “If God is everywhere, why go to a place of worship?”

We’ll learn about the various purposes of a place of worship as well as how believers see these places. I’m hoping we will visit a synagogue and a Hindu temple in order to broaden our understanding – exciting times ahead!

Geography

Our Geography focus will be on survival and climate zones across the world. This will tie in with our science work on living things & their habitats, which means the children will be really clued up by the end of the term!

Additionally, we will be comparing a European location with that of Kingswood.

History

As the children were so enthusiastic about World War 1 at the end of term 1, I have decided to continue our studies on this for an extra two weeks! We will be looking at the causes of the war and the Christmas Truce, as well as researching local people who were involved in the war. This will be in addition to our whole school remembrance service and poppy making.

Computing

In computing this term we will be focusing on data handling, which will include spreadsheeting and statistical analysis.

We will use data from our science work for this.

Art/DT

For DT, we will begin a special “shoebox trenches” project which will allow us to design, build and evaluate a product.

In art, we will be learning about the French artist Henri Rousseau and drawing in the style of him.

PSHE

In PSHE we will be following a scheme of work called “Jigsaw” which focuses on 6 key themes. This term we will be thinking about “Celebrating Difference”

Our Courtney Crown Value this term is “We celebrate our similarities and differences and understand the rights of others.” This will also feed into our weekly circle times.

PE

As a school we follow the “Real PE” scheme of work which focuses on building up core skills and applying them in games. On Wednesdays the children will have a PE session with Mr Smith, our sports coach. They will also be going swimming with me on a Friday afternoon – please make sure they remember their costumes!

If your child has long hair please make sure it is tied up on these days, and that they can take out their earrings. All children should have suitable PE kit kept at school.

Dear Parents,

Blimey – how quickly did Term 1 go? We had a brilliant start and I'm so excited for all the World War 1 work we're going to be doing this term. The children have been unbelievably enthusiastic and engaged with the WW1 work so far, so I hope to continue this this term!

We have changed our guiding reading schedule slightly to include a 'DEAR' session on a Friday – "Drop Everything And Read." This will be a 30 minute session dedicated entirely to reading for pleasure. Myself and Mr Smith will each read with each child in the class once per term, which will allow us to check they're reading books that both challenge and engage them. If you have any questions about this then please do let me know.

To support your child please encourage your child to:

- read every day and remember to bring their reading book and reading diary to school every day – we are having a real push on this in school
- learn their multiplication tables as part of our Multiplication Masters programme.
- take opportunities to try out their maths and English as much as possible – telling the time, writing letters etc
- do their homework and hand it in on time! Homework will be given every Friday to be completed by the following Wednesday at the very latest.

It would help the children enormously if there are any parents or grandparents who are able to lend a hand in class – the children always absolutely love it when we have helpers in. If you could spare even 30 minutes at the start or end of the school day, or any other time, then please do get in touch – it would be greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions about what we will be learning then just let me know. Here's to a fabulous second term 😊
Best wishes,

Mrs Elmore