



Frozen Kingdoms

Class Four

Autumn Term 2020
Curriculum Newsletter

Welcome to the planet’s coldest lands, which are incredibly beautiful, yet often deadly.

This term, we’ll start by finding out about icebergs (we’ll also make and observe our own mini-icebergs!). We’ll learn technical vocabulary so we can write reports in the role of engineers. Using globes and maps, we’ll identify the polar regions, comparing the Arctic and Antarctic. We’ll also think about how we can protect the polar environment. We will investigate the tragic story of the RMS *Titanic*. When we’re more familiar with the polar regions, we’ll write diary entries from the perspective of brave explorers who travelled across these often inhospitable lands. Researching our favourite polar animals and their ever-changing habitats will provide information for our news reports. We’ll create artwork inspired by the book ‘Panorama’ and by the Inuit people. We’ll experiment with digital photography as well as focusing on drawing, painting and print-making. We will also have a go at building strong, stable, igloos!

The main topic focus will be on **History**, and **Geography**. The key skills will be:

History	Geography
<p>Chronology: Place current study on time line in relation to others. Use relevant dates and terms.</p> <p>Range & depth of historical; knowledge: Find about beliefs, behaviour and characteristics of people, recognising that not everyone shares the same views and feelings.</p> <p>Historical enquiry: Recognise primary and secondary sources. Use a range of sources to find out about an aspect of time past. Bring knowledge gathering from several sources together in a fluent account.</p> <p>Organisation and communication Select aspect of study to make a display. Use a variety of ways to communicate knowledge and understanding including extended writing. Plan and carry out individual investigations.</p>	<p>Mapwork: Locate information / places with accuracy. Use key to make deductions about landscape / industry</p> <p>Theme: Understand the effect of ‘Global Warming’ on the environment</p> <p>Enquiry: Ask questions (What is x like? How has x changed?) Collect and record evidence Analyse evidence and draw conclusions</p> 

English

During the term, we will be focussing on writing formally for biographies, recounts and reports and informally in diaries and ‘pen pal’ letters. We will also consider how we can use a range of text types and sentence structures as well as interesting vocabulary to engage the reader in fictional texts – both prose and poetry. As part of the ‘Mantle of the Expert’ challenge we will need to write in a number of ways – including short descriptive pieces – as we become news reporters!

We will read in a range of contexts – including in daily whole-class guided sessions to focus on improving fluency and comprehension. Our class text, 'The Call of the Wild', is challenging and will involve us in development of our vocabulary. On Wednesday mornings, with Mrs Kennard, the writing focus will be on poetry

Mathematics

This term we will be focussing on Place Value and Addition & Subtraction in class. We will also begin work on Multiplication before Christmas. Where appropriate, the work we do in maths will link to our topic – for example in looking at populations of different towns, cities and countries. The maths content will include:

Reading, ordering and rounding numbers up to 1,000,000 / 10,000,000

Counting forwards and backwards in powers of 10.

Working with negative numbers.

Reading, ordering and rounding decimal numbers up to 3 decimal places.

Reading Roman numerals

Mental addition and subtraction methods

Written addition and subtraction methods

Mental and written multiplication methods

We will also be revising key facts (such as number bonds and x tables) in our 'quick maths' sessions and it would be great if you would help your child to practice at home too!

Handwriting & Presentation



In all our work in English, Maths and across the curriculum, children will be expected to present work to the high standard that will be demonstrated to them. Although in Y5 and Y6 we expect most children to be increasingly independent, they will be reminded about expected standards regularly and will be given short practice tasks to improve skills. These will include handwriting tasks as well as activities to improve fine motor control, develop creativity and allow children to experiment with their own ideas for presentation.



RE

The big question this term is, 'what does it mean to be a Muslim in Britain today?'

Science

The first half term's work will focus on 'Forces', including water resistance. The second half of term will focus on 'Light' – on how it travels and on how the eye enables us to see.



Art

We will focus on painting this term and the techniques for using water colours, acrylics and poster paints effectively. Drawing will be a constant feature across the year. We will use a beautiful book called 'Panorama' as an inspiration for our bold, stylised art leading to printing pictures of different 'Frozen Kingdoms'.

Computing

In ICT children will be making power point presentations as well as using ICT for a range of investigative and presentational work this term. We will also use Mathletics and Accelerated Reader programs to consolidate work in other subjects. We will all be thinking about On-line Safeguarding at the beginning and end of the term.

PSHE / Citizenship / Learning

With "Life, Love and Learning to the Full" as our core message, we will be considering what the school's core Christian Values mean to us in our lives. Through the project, we will consider how we can be good global citizens and how we can make a positive impact on our world. We will also think about and try to embed the four Rs of 'Building Learning Power' - Resilience, Resourcefulness, Reflectiveness and Reciprocity.

PE

We will focus on three units of work in PE. The first of these is Striking & Fielding. The second unit focuses on Gymnastics. We finish with Dance.



Music

This term, Class Four will be looking at reading musical notation and rhythm. We hope to be able to do some singing too!

DT

Children will apply their understanding of how to strengthen, stiffen and reinforce more complex structures as we attempt to find the best structure and materials to build our versions of an igloo!

Homework

Children should be reading for at least forty minutes (Y5) / fifty minutes (Y6) at home per day in addition to learning spellings and key number facts. Everyone also has a personal login for Mathletics, a fantastic on-line maths resource. Please do make sure that your child is accessing the resources regularly.

