



Preston Candover CE Primary School

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Woodpeckers Year 2 and 3

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have made it to our final term of the academic year. We hope you enjoyed the beautiful weather and have arrived back refreshed and ready to undertake summer term, before a well-deserved rest.

Big Enquiry Question (Summer 1): Should I have the right to live where I want to? This will be driven by our History and Art topic looking at the 'Windrush' generation. This will be supported by our PSHE where we look at living a healthy lifestyle; physically and mentally.

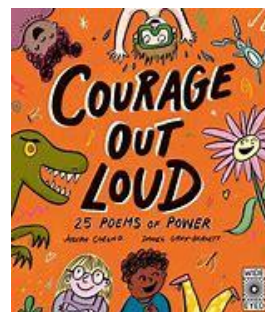
Big Enquiry Question (Summer 2): Why is food so special? This will be driven by our RE topic about special food and food rituals in different religions. It will also be supported by our PSHE knowledge from Summer 1 and our DT topic of healthy eating and maintaining a balanced diet.

English

The texts we will be looking at in detail in the first half of the Summer Term are:

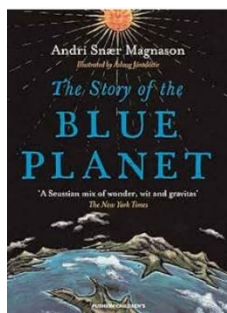


Coming to England by Floella Benjamin



Courage Out Loud by Joseph Coelho

The texts we will be looking at in detail in the second half of the Summer Term are:



The Story of the Blue Planet by Andri Snaer Magnason



Barnabus Project by the Fan Brothers

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English

This half term, the children will read *Coming to England* by Floella Benjamin, exploring themes of identity, belonging, and overcoming challenges, linking with art and history topics. They will practise grammar and writing through diary entries, letters, and descriptive narratives, and develop reading comprehension by analysing characters and historical context. The children will also explore courage through poetry, studying features like alliteration, rhyme, repetition, and similes, before writing their own poems. After the May half term, they will read *The Butterfly Dance* and write an adventure set on a fantasy planet, reflecting on themes such as friendship, greed, and environmental responsibility. To end the term, they will read *The Barnabus Project* and write a report about caring for a unique "failed pet" they design.

Maths

In the first half of the summer term, the children will build confidence with times tables, using them to solve multiplication and division problems in real-life scenarios. They will also revisit fractions, including halves, thirds, quarters, and tenths, using practical and written methods to find fractions of amounts. Time-related work will focus on telling the time to the nearest minute and understanding how different units of time are connected. These topics will be explored through hands-on activities, games, and practical challenges. In the second half, the children will continue developing addition and subtraction skills with mental and written methods, including working with 3-digit numbers and using column methods for addition.

RE (Religious Education)

This half term in RE, Woodpeckers class will explore the concept of God, focusing on how Christians and Hindus understand and represent God through stories, symbols, and worship. They will also express their own ideas creatively and reflect on the value of God in their lives. In the second half of the term, the children will learn about important Christian rituals like baptism, communion, and prayer. They will reflect on the meaning and value of these rituals in both religious and everyday contexts.

Science

This half term, the children will learn about magnets, exploring how they attract certain metals and how magnetic forces act through materials like air. They will investigate magnet strength, the role of poles, and how magnets attract or repel based on their orientation. In the second half of the term, the children will study plant growth and survival, focusing on seed formation, reproduction, and photosynthesis. Through experiments, they will develop scientific skills by making predictions, recording data, and observing changes.

History

During the first half of the summer term, the children will learn about the Windrush generation and their journey to Britain in 1948. They will explore why people came to the UK, listen to real stories, and examine historical sources like photographs, letters, and interviews. As young historians, they will consider the reliability and bias of different types of evidence. Throughout the unit, they will develop key historical skills such as identifying cause and effect, evaluating significance, and asking thoughtful questions.

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Geography

After half term, the children will learn about Kota Kinabalu and compare it to Basingstoke and Preston Candover. They will identify human and physical features, describe local weather, and use maps to plan a journey from the UK to Kota Kinabalu, marking continents, oceans, and countries. The children will explore similarities and differences between the locations, including aspects of geography and the local economy. This unit will strengthen their geographical understanding and comparison skills.

Art

This half term, the children will explore the theme of Windrush through the work of artist Charlisha Montrope, focusing on colour, texture, and printmaking. They will experiment with drawing techniques using pencils and charcoals, as well as watercolour methods like wet-on-wet and layering. The children will learn about colour mixing and apply basic printmaking techniques to create their own artworks inspired by Montrope. They will also engage in collaborative projects and practise critiquing art as a way of telling stories and expressing ideas.

DT (Design Technology)

In the second half of the summer term, the children will learn about cooking and nutrition, focusing on creating a healthy and balanced diet. They will explore food groups, meal planning, and the principles of healthy eating, while learning to safely prepare simple ingredients. The children will apply these principles by making a Malaysian-inspired fruit fritter (Kuih Kodok) in practical cooking sessions. Finally, they will critique their food, considering healthiness, taste, and presentation.

Computing

This half term, the children will learn about programming, focusing on robot algorithms by giving clear instructions to create sequences and program a robot. They will predict outcomes, explaining what their program should achieve, and develop skills in testing and debugging. In the next half term, the children will create quizzes using programming, learning to match sequences and control sprite actions in algorithms. They will design their quizzes by building sequences, choosing backgrounds, and comparing their projects to the original design.

PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic)

In PSHE this half term, the children will learn about developing a healthy lifestyle, focusing on a balanced diet, physical activity, rest, and the effects of too much sugar on health, including dental care. They will also explore the importance of taking breaks from screen time and staying safe in the sun. Additionally, they will learn how to be good global citizens by understanding how their actions impact others and practising cooperation. The children will explore climate injustice and how environmental and social challenges affect self-sustainability around the world. Finally, they will reflect on personal growth and how to manage transitions, like moving to a new class or year group, with confidence.

Music

This half term, the children will explore 'Enjoying Improvisation' using tuned and untuned percussion to create their own musical ideas. They will experiment with tempo, dynamics, and musical language, while Year 3 learns to read simple notation and perform with accurate pitch. Year 2 will focus on building confidence in composing and playing accompaniments. In the second half of the term, the children will explore how music is written down, perform rhymes, raps, and songs, and experiment with different sounds in both solo and group work.

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French

This term in French, the children will learn vocabulary for body parts, such as head, shoulders, knees, and toes, through oral and written activities. They will recap colour names and practise using them in sentences, particularly to describe their favourite colours. The children will reinforce their learning by singing the French version of *Heads, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes*, linking language with movement. They will also practise answering simple questions, like "Quelle est ta couleur préférée?" to build confidence in using basic French vocabulary.

PE (Physical Education)

This half term in PE, the children will focus on handball, practising passing, stopping, and collecting the ball, while developing skills for both attacking and defending. In dance, they will create movement patterns inspired by plants and perform in pairs or groups, using unison and expressive movements to communicate emotions. In the final half term, the children will learn the fundamentals of striking and fielding games, practising batting, fielding, and throwing skills. They will also focus on athletics, mastering running, jumping, and throwing techniques, and refining their sprinting technique and pace.

Year 2 Assessments

In September 2023, the end of Key Stage 1 SATS examinations were made non-statutory. As a school we be carrying out internal assessments. These will be used to help teachers understand strengths, next steps and progress. Assessments will be spread out during class time from 13th to 23rd May.

Home Learning

Please continue to read daily with your child, ensuring they practise verbally answering questions about the text. Home learning is due in each Thursday and given fresh on Friday. If your child is absent Thursday and/or Friday, please ensure they are pro-active in asking for any home learning they have missed. Home learning is to be completed as per our home learning policy and children are encouraged to look after their home learning books just as they do with their books at school. Please ensure all children complete home learning in pencil.

Year 2

Year 2 will continue to receive English and Maths home learning on alternative weeks. Occasionally they may receive extra spelling home learning to aid them in the transition from phonics to our spelling scheme. They will receive spelling words weekly which they are to practise as part of their home learning. There are lots of fun ways that can do this. We have glued in some ideas into the front and back covers of their books. Spelling tests are each Friday. Year 2s may also wish (are encouraged) to access their TTRS (Times Tables Rock Stars) regularly. However, at this stage we would just expect them to carry out activities learning their 2, 5 and 10 times tables.

Year 3

Year 3 will continue to receive English and Maths home learning weekly. They will receive spelling words weekly which they are to practice. There are lots of fun ways that can do this. We have stuck in some ideas into the front and back covers of their books. Spelling tests are each Friday. Maths home learning may be set on Times Tables Rock Stars or in the home learning book.

Thank you for your continued support. I cannot wait to see what the summer term brings for Woodpeckers!

Yours sincerely,
Miss L Wells (Woodpeckers Class Teacher)

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