



Preston Candover CE Primary School

Preston Candover, Basingstoke, RG25 2EE

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Headteacher: Mrs. Simrit Otway

Dear Parents and Carers,

Robins Class Newsletter

Welcome back to the spring term. I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable Christmas break. Robins Class have settled back into school life wonderfully, and I am very much looking forward to an exciting and engaging term of learning ahead.

Big Question for Spring term 1 is: 'How did the Anglo-Saxons change Britain?'

History

In History this term, our focus will be on the Anglo-Saxons. Children will explore who the Anglo-Saxons were, where they came from and why they settled in Britain. They will learn about Anglo-Saxon kingdoms, daily life, beliefs and the gradual spread of Christianity. Pupils will also consider the long-lasting legacy of the Anglo-Saxons, including language, laws, place names and settlement patterns, and begin to understand cause and consequence in historical events.

Big Question for Spring term 2 is: 'What difference can one person make to the world?'

Geography

In Geography, children will study Peru, with a particular focus on biomes and climate. They will locate Peru within South America using maps and atlases and learn about its key physical and human features. Pupils will explore rainforest and mountain environments, compare them with the UK, and consider how climate change affects different biomes. This unit encourages pupils to think carefully about sustainability, human impact and global responsibility.

Science

In Science this term, Robins Class will be learning about digestion and healthy eating. Children will begin by exploring the main food groups and understanding why our bodies need a balanced diet to grow, stay healthy and have enough energy. They will learn how different foods help the body in different ways, such as building muscles, providing energy and protecting us from illness.

Pupils will also learn about how animals and humans obtain their food, including simple food chains, and how diets vary depending on the needs of different animals. As part of this learning, children will study the different types of human teeth and how they are adapted for biting, tearing and grinding food.

Later in the unit, the focus will shift to how humans digest food. Children will learn how food is broken down so that nutrients can enter the bloodstream and be transported around the body to keep us healthy. This learning will link closely with discussions about making healthy choices and looking after our bodies.

English

In English this term, our learning will link closely to our History topic on the Anglo-Saxons and Scots. Children will use Children's Book of Mythical Beasts and Magical Monsters to explore mythical creatures from different cultures, reading non-chronological information texts and using this as inspiration to write their own detailed descriptions of an original mythical monster. Later in the term, pupils will study The Dragon's Hoard, using the story to innovate their own riddles and write a short mythical narrative, developing character, setting and plot while drawing on features of traditional myths.

In Spring 2, English learning will link closely to our Geography topic on Peru, biomes and climate zones. Children will use The Great Kapok Tree to explore rainforest environments and the creatures that live there, writing information texts about rainforest animals and developing a persuasive first-person speech from the viewpoint of a creature from the story. Later in the term, pupils will draw inspiration from The Wonder

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Garden to create an illustrated information spread for a new habitat, combining clear factual writing with rich descriptive language.

Maths

In Maths this term, children will build on their understanding of place value, fractions and decimals, including equivalent fractions and using fractions in calculations. They will develop fluency and confidence in addition and subtraction, using both mental strategies and formal written methods, as well as multiplication and division, with a focus on times tables, factors and partitioning. Pupils will also learn about measures, money and time, applying their skills to real-life problem-solving and reasoning activities throughout the term.

Computing

In Computing during Spring 1, children will be learning about audio editing. They will explore how sound is recorded and how computers use input and output devices to capture and play audio. Using the program Audacity, pupils will plan, record and edit their own recordings, learning how to improve sound quality and make purposeful choices. This unit will culminate in the creation of a radio advert, linked to their Design and Technology learning, allowing children to combine creativity with technical skills.

Later in the term, pupils will move on to photo editing, learning how digital images can be changed and enhanced using editing tools. Children will explore how images can be cropped, adjusted and modified, and will evaluate the impact that these changes can have on how an image is viewed or understood. This learning will link closely to their Art work, helping pupils to make thoughtful decisions about visual presentation and digital creativity.

RE

In RE during Spring 1, children will learn about Holi, a Hindu festival that celebrates good overcoming evil. Pupils will explore the story of Prahlad, who showed devotion and courage in the face of injustice, and will learn how this story helps Hindus understand the importance of faith, goodness and protection from harm. Children will also learn how Holi is celebrated today through bonfires, storytelling, colour, food and joyful celebration, helping them to understand how beliefs are expressed through festivals.

In Spring 2, our RE focus will be on prayer and ritual, with particular attention to Christianity. Children will learn what a ritual is and explore how prayer is used in different religions, including the Lord's Prayer in Christianity, the rosary in Catholicism, the Shema and Mezuzah in Judaism, and puja in Hinduism. Pupils will also learn about Holy Week, understanding why Christians see it as the most important part of Jesus' life, leading to his death and resurrection, and how these events continue to shape Christian belief today.

DT

In Design and Technology during Spring 1, children will explore food technology, with a focus on healthy eating. Pupils will investigate a range of salads and learn why different foods and drinks are important for keeping our bodies healthy. They will practise preparing ingredients safely and hygienically, combine foods from different food groups, and evaluate their final product by considering taste, texture, appearance and suitability for the intended user. This unit will culminate in the creation of a healthy salad.

Art

In Spring 2, our Art learning will focus on the rainforest, inspired by the work of Georgia O'Keeffe and Vincent van Gogh. Children will develop their observational skills through drawing, painting and photography, exploring colour, shape, space and value. They will experiment with a range of techniques including digital painting, printmaking and collage, learning how to create effective compositions using overlapping and spacing. The unit will conclude with a mixed-media collage, which children will evaluate against their original ideas.

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PE

In PE during Spring 1, children will develop their skills in netball and gymnastics. In netball, pupils will practise accurate throwing and catching, moving into space to support teammates, and understanding basic rules, positions and teamwork in game situations. In gymnastics, children will explore jumping and balancing, creating and refining sequences that combine travel, balance and controlled movement, while developing strength, agility and body awareness.

In Spring 2, PE will focus on football and dance. In football, pupils will develop control when dribbling and passing, learn how to move into space to support play, and begin to apply basic attacking and defending strategies in games. In dance, children will create and perform rainforest-inspired sequences, working in pairs and groups to explore rhythm, timing and expressive movement, and responding creatively to music and themes.

PSHE

In PSHE this term, children will learn about health and wellbeing, focusing on how to look after their bodies and minds. Pupils will explore the importance of healthy eating and dental care, including how food choices affect health and why good oral hygiene matters. They will also learn about the benefits of regular physical activity and good sleep routines, how to balance screen time with other activities, and how exercise and rest support both physical health and emotional wellbeing. Children will be encouraged to make informed choices and to know when and where to ask for help or advice.

Music

In Music this term, children will develop their musical skills through glockenspiel and percussion-based learning. Pupils will learn to use musical language to describe and appraise pieces of music, copy and perform increasingly challenging rhythms, and recognise pulse and rhythm with confidence. They will also be introduced to simple written notation, including crotchets and rests, and will practise listening carefully and recalling sounds using their aural memory.

If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school. As a reminder, children have home-school communication books for important parent messages, such as changes to collection arrangements. Please, also remind your child to show us their book when they come in to school.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Aston
Robins Class teacher

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