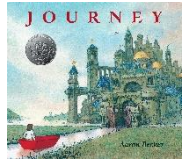


Literacy

In Literacy this term, we are studying two very different books. We are starting off with Journey by Aaron Becker, which is a wordless book that encourages the children to very closely study the pages in order to make inferences about what the story is about. The book gives us some fantastic chances for creative writing and has already caught the imagination of the class. After the February half term, we will begin to read The Sheep-Pig by Dick King Smith. This classic tale links well with our topic of Farm to Fork and will allow the children to explore many different genres of writing whilst giving them the chance to enjoy excellent literature. I have high hopes that the children will gain a lot from these two texts.



Maths

Last term we started working on multiplication and division, with particular emphasis on the Year 3's learning their 3,4 and 8 times table whilst the Year 4's solidify their knowledge on all of their times tables up to their 12s. We will shortly move on to more complex multiplication and division, where we will learn methods to calculate 2 and 1 digit multiplications. Later in the term we will begin a module on measurement of length involving finding the perimeter and area of a shape, fractions and finally finishing on a Year 3 focus of measurement of mass and capacity whilst the Year 4's begin to look at decimals.

The children will be set maths homework every week which will be in line with what we are doing in the classroom. Please discuss the work with your children and help them if needed. Times Table Rock stars has also become immensely popular in the class and the children have exceeded my expectations with their efforts to answer questions within 3 seconds or less! These skills will be so beneficial for the children so please allow them time to practice online where possible.

Science

This term in Science we are looking at living things and habitats, which involves understanding the characteristics of a living thing (ask your children about Mrs Gren) whilst also exploring local habitats, closely observing their inhabitants and creating a classification key to name the variety of living things that live in the wider environment.

After Easter, we will be focusing on plants, including parts, lifecycle and requirements for life.



I would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year and a warm welcome back to school! We are in for a fun filled term of learning with our new class topic, Farm to Fork. The topic is all about how food is farmed, harvested, processed, distributed, retailed and finally consumed at our dinner tables. The topic gives the children a great opportunity to learn not only about how food is produced and sold, but also the environmental issues such as global warming that can be caused by food miles, encouraging them to think practically about why sourcing food locally is important and the barriers that can stand in the way of doing so.

Over the course of Term 3 and 4, we will be focusing on two big questions, which will cover learning across many different parts of the national curriculum, focusing mainly on Geography, History and DT. Our first big question asks **'How do people farm across the world today?'** and the second question asks **'How has farming changed from the Egyptians to today?'**

Religious Education

This term in RE we will be learning about Judaism, looking closely at the big question of 'What connects Passover to freedom?' The topic will encourage the children to read the story of Passover from the bible, comparing it to the struggles still faced in society today whilst coming to conclusions about how this links to Christianity. The children will touch on serious issues such as 'Are people still persecuted for their religion today?' and 'Why is freedom important?'

Art and Design

We are very fortunate to have Mrs West teaching art in Puffins class during the run up to this years FAB Fest. In line with our Farm to Fork topic, the children will be creating their own 'Green Man' plaque, made from clay, based on the American folk-art farming pictures.



History and Geography

As previously stated, we will be focusing on two big questions for our history and geography this year, starting with 'How do people farm across the world today?' This is a geography-based question which will allow the children to explore where food is produced in the world and why certain foods can only be produced in certain places. Following this, they will learn about different types of farms in Britain, how farmers produce crops and what is produced in our local area. We will be ending term 3 by conducting our own fieldwork, asking the question 'Is buying local produce important?' We will be venturing out into Uckfield to ask members of the public some questions before measuring, recording and presenting our findings in a graph. After the February half term, in term 4, we will be focusing more on the history of farming, looking at how agricultural practices began in Northern Egypt and the similarities and differences that can be seen in farming today.