

Class 3 Newsletter- Spring Term 2017

English

The text we are reading this term is called, 'Twist of Gold' by Michael Morpurgo. It is about two children, who leave famine stricken Ireland in 1850 to sail to America in order to find their father. We will use this text to cover the English objectives: developing comprehension skills, such as skimming, scanning, inference and deduction; learning about different verbs, tenses, parts of a sentence and clauses; narrative writing, non-fiction writing, explanatory writing and biographical writing. We will also do some historical research about the real life events surrounding the story, investigating how the famine led to a mass emigration from Ireland and what the conditions were like on board the passenger ships at the time. As the children journey across America from Boston to California, we will be learning about real historical events that happened around the time and researching the cities that they travelled through.

Mathematics

The objectives that will be taught this term cover all the mathematical strands – number, calculation, geometry and statistics:

- Fractions, decimals and percentages.
- Ratio and algebra (Y6 only).
- Angles and properties of shapes.
- Coordinates (up to 4 quadrants)
- Measure, including time.
- Interpreting and constructing bar charts and line graphs.
- Pie charts (Y6 only)
- Understanding the parts of a circle.
- Investigation and problem solving.

Science

This term, Class 3 will be learning about Animals including Humans. The learning objectives to be covered are-

- Identify and name the parts of the human circulatory system.
- Describe the functions of the main parts of the circulatory system.
- Explain how water and nutrients are transported within the body.
- Describe how diet and exercise impact on human bodies.
- Plan a scientific enquiry.
- Explain the impact of drugs and alcohol on the body.

History

The children will learn who the Ancient Shang people were; where and when they lived, using maps and atlases to locate Shang cities. They will also learn about the role of the king, the religious beliefs and rituals of the Shang people and how oracle bones were used in divination ceremonies. The children will also examine a range of Shang artefacts and draw conclusions about what they can teach us. The unit ends with a close look at the remarkable discovery of the first intact Shang tomb which belonged to the military general and high priestess Fu Hao.

Geography

In this unit about the Americas, children will first find out about the continents of North and South America, and the countries that form them. They will then look in more detail at some of the contrasting areas of North America, finding out about the landscape, climate and locations in each area. At the end of the unit, children will research a trip to an area of North America and create tour guides to share what they have found.