Petersfield Church of England School

Curriculum Information

Rowan Class, Spring Term 2018

English

This term we will be writing a range of text types. These will include:

- Narrative: science fiction short story.
- Non-fiction: discussion text. Do aliens exist?
- Non-fiction: persuasion text. A speech persuading others to agree with a particular point of view.
- Poetry: a short collection of space-themed poems with a focus on imagery.

We will continue to practise and revise the use of a range of spelling, grammar and punctuation rules and work on incorporating these into our writing.

Science

This term we will be studying:

- Earth and Space, where we will learn about the Earth and the solar system, including the movement of the Earth and planets relative to the sun, the Moon's orbit around the Earth and the rotation of the Earth.
- Forces, where we will learn about balanced and unbalanced forces, gravity, friction and the use of mechanisms, levers, gears and pulleys.

Mathematics

This term we will be concentrating on the following areas of Maths:

- Number: Multiplication and Division (written and mental methods; problem solving).
- Number: Fractions (compare and order; identify equivalent fractions; recognise mixed numbers and improper fractions; add and subtract fractions; multiply proper fractions and mixed-numbers by whole numbers; read and write decimals as fractions; solve problems involving fractions)
- Number: Decimals & Percentages (read, write order and compare decimals; recognise and use tenths, hundredths, thousandths; round decimals; recognise percentages; write percentages as fraction and as a decimal; solve problems involving decimals and percentages)

RE

This term we will be exploring the question: Who do people say that I am?' We will be looking particularly at the titles of Jesus in John's Gospel which are known as the "I am" sayings.

Geography

Through studying the South West region of the USA, the children will extend their knowledge and understanding of:

- Map work.
- Desert biomes, their landscape features and the processes that form them.
- The causes and consequences of earthquakes.
- Why water is a precious resource and how it can be managed.
- The events and results of the Gold Rush.
- How our region compares and contrasts with other parts of the world.

Other subjects

Art: Using the desert and space as inspiration for exploring printing techniques.
DT: Design and build a model moon buggy.
Music: Preparing for the Young Voices concert at the O2 and composing and performing music inspired by space.
PE: Gymnastics - body symmetry.
PSHE: Financial Capability; Managing Risk; and Working Together
Computing: Radio station – use different software to record and make interviews, adverts and jingles. LEGO – moon base.

Rowan Class Homework Menu

Yet again, the Autumn Term Homework Project resulted in an incredibly high standard of homework. Both in the assembly and in individual presentations, teachers and pupils learnt so much from each other. This term, we continue to set project homework alongside the maths or English homework set each week. This menu details a range of fun activities that can be completed at home to extend your child's learning. Please help your child to choose and complete a selection of these activities. To fit in with your family life, they can be completed after school, at weekends or as a half term project. If you would like further suggestions, please feel free to select from the homework menus of other classes which are all available on the school website. Children will be asked to share at least one of the activities with us in school. The deadline for this homework is the **22nd February** and we ask that the homework is not brought in to class until after half term. The sharing assembly will be on **Friday 23rd February** – we do hope you can join us. We very much look forward to seeing and hearing and learning from the homework produced this term!

English

- Research and create a fact-file all about earthquakes. How about including some diagrams?
- Write a short piece of science fiction set in the far future. What new and incredible technologies will you invent?
- Find out all about the Gold Rush and then put together a presentation to give to the class. You could use a PowerPoint presentation for this.

Suggested Reading List

- *Only You Can Save Mankind* by Terry Pratchett
- *Animorphs: The Invasion* by Katherine Applegate
- *Lunch Walks Among Us* by Jim Benton
- *Cosmic* by Frank Cottrell Boyce

Any information, explanation or history texts on or about outer space, the South West USA, the Gold Rush, earthquakes or deserts.

Science

Try some of these space related experiments:

- http://cse.ssl.berkeley.edu/AtHomeAstronomy/
- http://stem-works.com/subjects/12-space/activities

Or how about making your own earthquake? This is one example you could try:

- https://sciencing.com/make-earthquake-model-kids-5347246.html

A region of North America:

The South West USA

History & Geography

- Create a diorama (3D model) of a desert in a shoe box. Label all the features, plants etc. that you include.
- Record the weather every day for at least two weeks. Present the data you record in a suitable way.
- Draw up a travel itinerary with maps and photos for a two week tour of the South West USA. Make sure you visit all the major sites!

Mathematics

- Make a database of information about each of the planets in our solar system including size, distance from the sun, length of orbit etc.

Art & DT

- Research how astronauts eat in space and design and/or make a packaged balanced meal that can be eaten in zero gravity.
- Make a scale model of the solar system.
- Paint a picture of a space rocket based on the paintings of Peter Thorpe.

Possible Family Trips & Visits

- Cambridge Botanic Gardens (the glass houses to see how plants adapt to arid conditions).
- The London Planetarium.
- The Science Museum.
- Whipple Museum of the History of Science, Cambridge (their collections on astronomy and a permanent exhibition on globes).