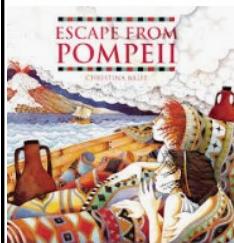




Waddesdon Village Primary School
Pathway to Excellence
Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter
Autumn Term 2 2023



English:



Our core text for this half term is a book called "Escape From Pompeii". This story has links to our Geography topic. Using this text we will be able to understand the timeline of events at Pompeii when Vesuvius erupted in AD79, and we will read about how any survivors managed to get away. We will be using this text to write a descriptive recount of the events in Pompeii. This text has a rich vocabulary and the language should encourage lots of class discussion. We will then move onto a short video called 'The Creature' which will inspire a newspaper report.

General Introduction:

Welcome back to Autumn 2! We are moving on from mountains to find out about volcanoes. I am hoping that the Extreme Earth unit planned will be lively and interesting for the class. As always, if there is anything that you wish to discuss, please feel free to contact me.



Science:

The topic this half term is Sound. Children will be looking at how sound is made, objects that make sound, and volume and pitch. They will also look at how sound travels through our ears to our brain. During this topic we will also focus on investigative skills.



Weekly schedules:

Swimming begins again on Tuesday mornings—we need to leave the school promptly and ask that everyone is registered and lined up ready to go by 8:50 am.

Mrs Morris will continue to teach the class on Wednesday mornings and PPA will be covered on Wednesday afternoons by Exposure Sport and Mrs Watkins.

Mathematics:

This half term children will be concentrating on calculating the perimeter of different shapes both regular and irregular. We will concentrate on the multiplication and division operations and their related facts. The expectation is that children know all their tables up to 12X12 by the end of Year4 and this will help them with these methods. We will not only be looking at formal written methods but working to improve mental maths skills. Mrs Morris will continue to teach basic maths skills and investigations on Wednesday mornings. Throughout all maths units the pupils will have the opportunity to practise their problem solving and reasoning skills, in familiar and unfamiliar contexts.

PE:

Swimming will recommence from Tuesday 31st October at Aqua Vale swimming complex with specialist swimming instructors as before. PE will be on Wednesday and Friday and we will be exploring Tag Rugby and challenging ourselves through personal fitness goals.

RE:

This half term the children we will be continuing to learn about Judaism. Later on in the term we will be revisiting the Christmas Story with a particular focus on how symbols are used as representations. We will also discuss the symbols used in Christingle.

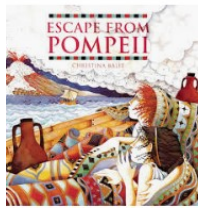


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Geography:

We will continue our unit about mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes. The children will investigate Tectonic Plates and the Earth's crust to find out how earthquakes and volcanoes occur. Our core text will help us to understand the destruction that can be caused. We will also be looking at tsunamis as the children have expressed an interest in this.



Art:

We will also be studying paintings by the artist Andy Warhol, focussing on a series of 18 paintings called 'Vesuvius by Warhol' to link with our Geography topic and core text Escape From Pompeii. We will also be creating our own versions.



Music:

The Kapow music scheme will be followed. This half term they will be learning about the origin and features of rock and roll music, focusing on the Hand Jive and Rock Around the Clock, looking specifically at a walking bass line, before then performing a piece as a class.

MFL:

French will continue to be taught by Mr Mitchener on Thursday mornings. He will be following the Rigolo scheme of French work.

Computing:

This half term the children will learn how to code using the Purple Mash program, this will allow the children to apply their knowledge learnt from the previous Logo unit.

Autumn 2
"Extreme Earth"

Important Dates:

- 31/10/23 Swimming begins again
- 09/11/23 Class 4 Open Afternoon 2.30
- 20/11/23 Parents Evening 3.30-7.30
- 21/11/23 Parents Evening 3.30-5.30
- 27/11/23 Book Fair Week
- 12/12/23 Christmas Dinner
- 15/12/23 KS2 Christmas Parties
- 15/12/23 Break Up at 3.20

How you can support your child at home:

Homework will continue in the same manner as before. It will continue to be linked to what the children are learning in Maths and English and will need to be handed in on a Monday. Please continue to encourage your children to read regularly. It is also an expectation that children practise their timestables on TTRS and number bonds on Numbots.

PSHE:

- This half term, pupils will follow the Kapow scheme of work. The unit is called "Families and Relationships" and the pupils will be learning about the boundaries in friendships, and how what they do and say affects other people..

Final word:

I have really enjoyed our first half term, the children have settled back into school well and I am extremely proud of them all. I am looking forward to another busy term, helping your children reach their full potential. If you wish to discuss anything further or require any support please feel free to contact me.

Mrs Smith