

Science

This term we will be looking at the topics of forces and magnets and states of matter.

We will begin the term with forces and magnets. This will allow the children to investigate force and how this changes the motion of an object and how magnets use force. They will test materials to find out which are magnetic, understand what the poles of a magnet are and how they work and use the information they have gained to create their own magnetic game.

Through the topic of States of matter, children will compare and group materials according to their state, observe how heating and cooling change the state of some materials and find boiling and solidifying points and their degrees. They will also look at the water cycle and the part evaporation and condensation play in this.

**The wider curriculum**

ICT: In the first half term the children will be making a video trailer for a book. They will be taking photos or videos of their chosen book and will import into film editing software. They will record sounds and add text to their video.

In the second half term we will be using the coding platform 'Scratch' to build skills that that enable pupils to program an animation, a story and a game.

Music: The children will use song to sing pop, disco and pop ballad style songs. They will learn the songs as a class, use musical games and play tuned instruments to learn them. They will, by the end of the unit, have sung and played the songs as a performance piece, with rhythm.

French: French is mainly learnt through conversation rather than written work so lots of oral learning will take place. We will continue to practice the conversations we have been learning when meeting people. We will then progress to numbers up to 50 and use this to learn birthdays and the date as well as days of the week and months of the year. This will then extend our conversations to asking how old someone is and what the date is.

History: They will be studying the Tudors. This will focus mainly on looking at the Tudor Royal Family through the years, specifically within the reign of King Henry VIII. This links well with our trip to Hooke Court where the children will have the opportunity to find out about Tudor life including food, clothing and houses through a hands on Tudor experience.

Geography: The children will focus on Extreme Earth, finding out just how powerful the forces of nature can really be and the effects of natural disasters. They will also begin to recognise how people have tried to control natural disasters and identify solutions for them.

Mathematics

This term we expand on the children's growing knowledge of their times tables to begin to multiply and divide 2-digits by 1-digit, moving on to multiplying and dividing 3-digits by 1-digit. We will use the expanded and grid methods to do this.

We will then move on to looking at measurement. This will include finding out perimeters and areas and using correct methods to calculate these.

Lastly we will begin to look at fractions. This will begin by focusing on making a whole and looking at unit and non-unit fractions. We will then begin to understand equivalent fractions as well as fractions of an amount which will use the times tables they have worked on previously. Finally we will be adding and subtracting fractions, understanding how this is done.

Physical Development

We will begin the term with dodge ball and gymnastics. Dodgeball will allow the children to focus on throwing and catching skills with accuracy and play competitive games using attacking and defending. Gymnastics will then allow the children to develop flexibility, strength and technique.

During the second half of term the children will then learn to play basketball and develop fitness skills. In basketball they will continue using defending and attacking skills whilst learning dribbling and passing skills to gain possession over an opponent as well as shooting skills and applying this and the correct rules to playing the game. In fitness they will develop an awareness of what their bodies are capable of through intense individual challenges designed to improve core strength and agility.

PSED and Religious Education

PSED: The first half term will focus on keeping safe and managing risk. This centres around bullying. It looks at what bullying is, the different types of bullying and how we deal with bullying ourselves including helping others.

During the second half of the term we will focus on mental health and emotional well-being. This will be done through celebrating achievements and setting personal goals as well as dealing with put-downs and positive ways to deal with setbacks.

RE: This term we will look at both Christianity and Hinduism.

In Hinduism we will look at what it is like to be a Hindu in Britain today building on the previous knowledge we learnt about Hinduism. We will look at a typical day and week in the Hindu religion then more specifically at the celebration of Navaratri. Our Christianity element will look at the emotions involved in Holy week and why Christians believe 'Good Friday' is good. This will progress well from the work they did in Year 2.

Diary dates:

Non-pupil day – Tuesday 2nd January 2024

Parent's evening – Tuesday 6th and Thursday 8th February 2024

Half term – Monday 12th – Friday 16th February 2024

Hooke Court – Wednesday 21st – Friday 23rd February 2024

Last day of term – Thursday 28th March 2024

English

This term the children will continue to develop their knowledge of spelling and grammar rules.

In handwriting the children will continue to practise new joins and perfect the joins they have already learnt using the year 3/4 statutory spelling list

Within their written work the children will be expected to use their joined up writing and their growing knowledge of spelling and grammar.

We will work on tone, expression, volume and pace through performance poetry then learn how to write a persuasive letter using emotive language and understanding which perspective to write in.

Finally, we will look at mythical fiction, using varied adverbials and tenses and finish with non-fiction which will focus on its structure as well as conjunctions, pronouns and multi clause sentences.

Reading: Within independent reading, reading to an adult and the guided reading sessions, the children will focus on their comprehension skills, thinking carefully about what they have read to answer questions.

Art and Design

Art: Children will learn simple weaving skills and produce a woven pattern. They will also begin to produce simple portraits and self-portraits by practising observational drawing and ensuring they draw what they see while thinking about the positioning and shape of figures and artefacts.

Design Technology:

At Hooke Court the children will learn to cook over an open fire as well as build a shelter.

In class we will be using clay and modelling techniques to build a volcano.