



The Big Debate: **Being powerful is more important than being different.**

What will the children be learning?



In this project, the children investigate the concept of inclusion, hope and optimism by studying how to value differences through PSHE. They will look at people close around them first, before branching out and discovering more about the people we share our world with. Through Geography, children will have the opportunity to delve into the Amazon Rainforest and discover more about the animals and people that live there whilst finding out why rainforests are important to us.

Please see the curriculum section on our school website for more detail about the subjects and skills to be covered.

English

The term starts with the children reading biographies about Roald Dahl and people who have left a mark for the benefit of others. The focus will be on securing key skills so the children are able to write in a non-fiction style with clarity using a range of sentences. Next, they will break into newspaper writing. The children will broaden the range of complex sentence starters to link and expand ideas. Through this, the children will develop their formal writing skills. Finally, the children will be able to flex their creative skills by writing a setting and character description for their version of Polar Express. Look out for a letter written by the children to persuade you on the merits of watching the Christmas film, and coming to school in pyjamas.

How to help at home

Please listen to your child read regularly at home. It is beneficial to read a range of texts as children will learn different skills from different genres. You could ask questions about how a character might be feeling based on the evidence in the text and it would also be helpful if you could spend time discussing the meaning of specific words and their effect on the story. Please ask your child questions about the text based around Ranvilles' Reading Masters. Spelling is key to develop children's writing and self-esteem. Please support your child to practise weekly in a way that they enjoy. Upload reading and spelling regularly for house point rewards!



Maths

In Maths, the children will continue with addition and subtraction with a focus on money. They will compare pounds and pence and be challenged to total up amounts and give back the correct change. Their calculation skills will then be used to work out the perimeter of shapes. This unit will also see the children convert between units of measurement and explore problems relating to estimating length, calculating length and comparing different measures before moving onto multiplication and division where the children will develop both their mental strategies and formal methods. Following this, our attention will turn to time with the children being challenged to draw hands on clock faces, tell the time to the nearest minute and convert between analogue and digital time including from 12 to 24 hours.

How to help at home

This half-term it would be beneficial for you to continue supporting your child in practising their times tables. As well as this, asking your child to add up the cost of items when shopping will also support our teaching in money. Telling the time is an essential skill and we would appreciate your support in securing last years teaching of telling the time to the nearest 5 minutes and building on this to tell the time to the nearest minute. Support with number bonds, counting on and back and practising quick recall of key facts will benefit the children greatly. Small amounts of regular practise help children secure and consolidate key skills. To help with this, your child has access to Times Table Rockstars and Maths Shed where they can apply their learning from school.



Other information

PE: This term, our PE days continue on Tuesdays and Fridays. The children will be learning key concepts to develop their football skills, including: passing, dribbling and shooting as part of a team. Our outdoor sessions will be on Tuesdays. On Fridays, the children will be learning gymnastics. They will explore various balances, rolls and ways of travelling before combining these skills into a routine to perform.

Library: Every Thursday or Friday the children will be provided with the opportunity to visit the school library. Children are encouraged to choose two books from the library, one to stay at school to enjoy throughout the week and the other to share with you at home. The children are able to visit the library daily at break time. They are able change their banded books on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Cloakrooms: Space in the cloakroom is very limited; please ensure your child only brings essential items to school i.e. water bottle, coat and lunchbox. Please can you ensure your child brings a healthy snack with them to have at breaktime and that they have suitable clothing for the weather as it changes.