

Autumn 2017 in Cherry Tree Class



In Cherry Tree Class this term we will be looking at “hot and cold places”, particularly Africa, the Arctic, and the Antarctic, in relation to the whole school topic of “Our World”. We will be studying these regions and comparing them to each other as well as where we live, focusing primarily on the geographical features such as deserts (both hot and cold), savannahs, and glaciers!

In Literacy we will read a variety of texts, both fiction and non-fiction, that are closely linked to our places of interest. We will be writing our own narratives, as well as recapping and creating information texts, and continuing to work on our spelling and use of punctuation. We will study books such as *Meerkat Mail* in depth, acting out scenes by use of physical drama and dialogue, writing our own postcards, and writing our own stories. We have a great interest in non-fiction texts as a class, so will also be looking closely at these, as well as retrieving factual information from different sources.

Maths this term will focus on place value and establishing a secure understanding of how numbers work. This includes recognising and ordering numbers, how numbers are made up of tens and units, and how we use numbers. We will be looking at how to use number squares effectively, as well as addition and subtraction of two digit numbers and explaining the reasoning behind our answers. Maths is primarily taught practically, though fun activities and discussions.

In science we are examining and testing materials. We will look at materials within the school, around the village, and beyond, testing their different properties and comparing their uses. Our DT and science are closely related. We have already built beds for Barnaby Bear, all of which held up under his weight and many had layers of cloth and a paper straw mattress for comfort! Outdoor Education will also be encouraging a close examination of materials, as well as looking at our local geography, including reading, using, and creating maps.

Carol will be teaching R.E. with a focus on festivals and celebrations, including Rosh Hashanah and Christmas, which will tie in nicely to all the festivities that are fast approaching us at the end of the year! She will also be teaching Aboriginal Australian art with the fantastic Rosemary Humphries, who we are grateful to once again be working with. In Music we will be focusing on singing and experimenting with instruments, adding sound effects to the stories we have learned and how to make different sounds with our bodies. During Computing we will look carefully at the importance of e-safety and how to communicate and behave online. We are very excited to be using the iPads and laptops!

Outdoor Education will take place on a Wednesday afternoon, 1.30-2.45, and P.E. occurs on Wednesday and Thursday mornings. We are very lucky to still have Dave with us, who will be carrying on with rugby on Wednesdays this term! Please can P.E. kits and welly boots be in school all week, just in case!

We have settled in well, and seem set to particularly enjoy our topic of hot and cold places as we have a great interest in maps, satellite images, atlases, and how the world beyond our local environment works, as a class. If you have any questions or concerns, please come and find myself (Miss Evans), Carol, or Paula - our door is always open!