

Cavendish Church of England Primary School

Information for Parents
Spring Term 2018

Geography of the UK



Neptune Class
Mrs Wilson

Dear Parents

Welcome back and Happy New Year!

Our topic for this term is Geography of the UK and, as always, this will be taught cross-circularly. We will be using our geographic skills to locate counties of the UK, carry out in-depth case studies of national parks, such as Snowdonia, the Peak District and Lake District moors and how they have changed over time. We will also be developing key skills such as, reading OS maps, using and applying 6 figure grid references as well as understanding contour lines on key peaks. This will also allow us to explore rivers and surrounding seas, as well as how topographical features impact on weather patterns in the U.K. Finally, we will look at how land is used in different ways, such as transport, defence and leisure, in addition to carrying out a field study. During this visit we will be both using measuring and mapping our own keys, and looking at how landscapes have changed through time in art.

Our English lessons will see us reading and performing poetry as well as analysing poetic style. We will also be developing our writing skills by studying, reading and creating narratives, plays and non-fiction texts. Guided reading will be a weekly session on Friday mornings. In the current curriculum, spelling, handwriting and the overall presentation of the children's work is a limiting judgement and therefore will be a tight daily focus. This is also an area the children will need to focus on when completing their homework.

Our science this term looks at 'All Living Things and Their Habitats', in which we will explore the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird and describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals. We will also be studying the work of natural scientists such as Sir David Attenborough and Jane Goodall. Throughout the term we shall also investigate how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics, including micro-organisms, plants and animals and give reasons for such classification based on specific characteristics. This will also involve looking at the work of Carl Linnaeus, so any information books or posters they can look at or bring in on this topic would be very useful! As always we will explore this through practical investigations that will encourage children to draw conclusions and

scientifically discuss their findings. Maths will continue to focus on the key areas: problem solving, ratio and proportion, geometry, measurement, number, algebra and statistics. We will be using and applying our mathematic skills through practical activities, formal written methods and arithmetic. Please support your children in regularly practising their times table facts and making sure they are still confident in reading the analogue and 24 hour clock

PSHE this term will focus on 'Me and Medicines and Drugs' and 'Me and my healthy lifestyle'. In R.E. will be looking at religious texts Hinduism this half-term and moving on to Christianity. In Computing, we will be learning about interactive computer games.

Your child has an updated timetable in their planner; please share this to enable your child to arrive in school well-equipped for the day ahead. Please ensure children have warm outdoor clothing for this and robust footwear. In French will be telling the time and in music we will sing the National Anthem and also learn this on the recorders. In computing we will be looking at how apps are developed and designing our own within school!

In Art we will be studying the history of cartography and create an imaginary world., Later in the term we will focus on the work of British sculptor Andy Goldsworthy. Also in Cookery we will be looking at a range of regional foods to represent the U.K. This term PSHE will focus on "Me and My Health", before moving on to "Me and Medicines". This will be covered through class discussion, stories, personal reflection and written work.

P.E. will be on Mondays and Thursdays so please ensure that your child has their full kit in school every day. Please ensure your child has a coat in school for break and lunchtimes. Homework will be set on Wednesdays for completion by the following Monday, which include an English/Topic/Science and My Maths. Spellings are set on Wednesdays and tested the following Wednesday. If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact me, either via the planner, at the end of the school day or via the school e-mail address.

Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Mrs Wilson