



Firefly Class

Firefly class has a mix of children from years 5 and 6 and is taught by Miss Harcombe with support from our Teaching Assistant Mrs. Osborne.

English We are beginning the year by writing narrative stories and will continue with other genres of writing which entertain the reader. Lesson time is put aside each week to teach spelling and grammar which are important elements of the year 5/6 curriculum. Each child is given a new set of spellings on Wednesday to practise and learn for a dictation test the following Wednesday. Their diaries will be checked during the week to ensure they are taking the time to write them out and learn them.

Maths

Children from Firefly class are split for maths lessons to ensure they are taught at an appropriate level and all gaps in learning are addressed. They either go to one of the other year 5/6 classes or to Miss Lowe. If you would like to find out what your child is learning at any point in the year, all the teaching blocks are on the school website.

PE

We have two sessions of PE during the week. While the weather is good, both will be outside. Please ensure your child has their kit in school all week as they may need to change into their trainers for outdoor learning sessions or to play on the field at lunchtime. This prevents mud from being brought into school. Children will have a sticker in their diaries as a reminder if they forget their kit.

Reading

Group reading comprehension sessions take place during the week and each child will work with an adult at least once a week. We will also be reading *The Extraordinary Colours of Auden Dare* a book which fits well with our topic of ‘Sustainable World?’

Accelerated Reading Is still being used for reading. It is able to assess your child’s reading age and then recommend suitable books for them. Daily sessions are set aside each day in school for silent reading and for the children to take quizzes when they finish books. We would still like your child to read at home at least five times a week and hand in their communication diary, signed by you each day.

Topic Our current topic is ‘Sustainable World?’ and the children will be looking at global and local environmental issues such as recycling and where our natural resources come from.

Art In art we will be studying the artist Henri Rousseau and his techniques when painting the natural world. We will be comparing his work with a modern day conservation artist.

Science Our topics this term include forces and mechanisms. We will be carrying out enquiries about the forces that surround us and how they can be measured. Children will also find out about famous scientists such as Newton and Galileo. Investigating pulleys and levers will also form part of this work.

After half term we will be studying Earth and Space, how the earth moves and planets in our solar system.

PSHE

Before half term, Firefly class will be looking at body changes and preparing for puberty. Check your child’s diary for a sticker confirming when this will be happening. I’m sure you will agree that this is a great opportunity to discuss important changes with your child.

Homework – is set each week, usually on a Tuesday. It is then due back on the following Tuesday. Children who are unable to complete and hand their homework in on time will attend homework club on Wednesday lunchtimes to complete this work. As well as spellings, times tables and reading, homework consists of a piece of written work or research which relates to the learning taking place in school. Thank you for ensuring your child completes their homework each week.

Communication

Please note that children's mobile phones may not be switched on whilst on school premises and must be collected in by class teachers at the start of each school day. They will be locked safely in the office and will be returned to them as they leave school. Your child's diary is a quick and easy way to communicate with me, if you wish. I am always available at the end of school if there are any concerns you have about your child or you can ring the school office to make an appointment. My door is always open!