

Stag Class

Our learning theme for this half term is...

How has the world evolved?

Our focus will be on evolution. We will study explorers from the past including Darwin's journey aboard the HMS Beagle. Many of our subjects will be accessed through this theme. Some subjects, such as maths, will continue to be taught separately.

In **English**, we will be reading the book Darwin's Dragons by Lindsay Galvin. The book follows the adventures of a young boy working alongside Darwin. We will use this book to look at Diary writing.

We will also place a large focus on non-fiction writing this half term. We will use On The Origin of Species by Sabina Radeva which is a picture book based on Darwin's original. The class will write about evolution in the natural world.

In **Maths**, we are starting the term by learning about ratio. Then our focus will move on to look at Algebra and decimals. This half term we will also do some more SATs practise papers which I will be able to discuss with you during Parents Evening.

In **Geography**, we will be studying the way energy is produced and used globally. There will be opportunities to look at how this has changed over time and the effects that we have had on the natural world. The children will learn about sustainable energy and discuss the benefits for people as well as the planet.

Links to Prior Learning

We will be reviewing our previous scientific knowledge of humans and genetics, then relating this to Darwin's Theory of Evolution.

In our Geography lessons we will be calling back on learning from prior knowledge of work maps to map out Darwin's voyage. We shall also look at how energy is used differently based on geography



Our focus in **Art** will be on lino printing. We will be looking at work by a local artist named Sybil Andrews, then having a go at creating our own prints in her style.

In **Science**, our focus will be on Inheritance and Evolution. We will look at the how animals have adapted over time and how inheritance works.

On Wednesday mornings each week Mrs Slingsby will be working with the class teaching **RE**, **PSHE** and **Music**.

Reminders:

Please ensure your child brings their reading book and journal to school each day as there will be opportunities most days to read or add to their journals.

PE will be on Mondays and Thursdays. On Mondays we will be doing gymnastics and on Thursdays we will be doing orienteering and outdoor adventurous activities.

As part of our healthy eating approach, we do not allow squash or flavoured water in school, so please ensure your child has only water in their bottle. If your child would like a snack at break times, we ask that you send them to school with fresh fruit or vegetables to promote a healthy diet.

Homework

Your child will continue to be sent home with tasks in their maths and English homework books this term. Please take the time to check the work with them and supervise this. The answers to the questions are in the back of the books so if you would like to take the time to mark this with your child it can really help their understanding of the work. Please encourage your child to continue reading as often as possible and to keep practising times tables so that they remain fluent with them.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to come and speak with me. Thank you in advance for your support.

Mr Cocks

Dates for your diary:

SATs information evening for parents – 6pm 13th January

Safer Internet Day – 11th February