

Our theme this term is...

Walkabout!

The human Geography of Australia

As **geographers** we will:

- Locate Australia on a world map and globe.
- Be able to describe the geographical position of Australia (hemisphere, longitude/latitude/Equator).
- Understand why people decide to settle in certain places due to the geographical nature of that environment.
- Be able to use maps, atlases, globes and digital mapping to locate Australia and the states within it.
- Know about the key features of Australia, man-made and natural, which draw people towards this unique continent.
- Be able to use the eight points of a compass to build our knowledge of the wider world.

As **artists** we will:

Explore the Art of the indigenous people of Australia. We will explore the symbolism in Aboriginal Art and create our own Art work based on this.

As **programmers** we will:

Code a robotic device to complete a range of tasks. We will evaluate our own coding designs for efficiency.

As **scientists** we will:

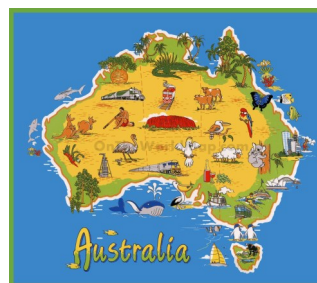
- Plan and complete a series of light investigations, identifying variables and ensuring fair testing.
- Suggest patterns and connections based on observations and measurements
- Draw conclusions and provide answers based on scientific enquiry.
- Use the idea that light travels in straight lines to explain that objects are seen because they give out or reflect light into the eye.
- Explain that we see things because light travels from light sources to our eyes or from light sources to objects and then to our eyes.
- Use the idea that light travels in straight lines to explain why shadows have the same shape as the objects that cast them.

As **writers** we will:

- Select and use imaginative vocabulary and devices, such as figurative language, to enhance our writing.
- Deepen our understanding of grammar and apply it to our writing appropriately.
- Use examples of stories read as a model to write our own.

As **mathematicians** we will:

- Secure our understanding of the link between fractions, decimals and percentages, moving smoothly between them.
- Add, subtract, multiply and divide with confidence and increasing speed.
- Identify and understand which mathematical skill is required to answer specific questions.
- Make links between the different areas of mathematics.
- Describe and extend repeating number patterns.



RE: We are learning about Judaism and hope to visit a synagogue in Cambridge to enhance our understanding.

PE: This half term Year 5 and 6 will be learning to play netball, developing their ball skills and team game skills.

PSHE: This term Year 5 and 6 will be learning about the importance of knowing which information should and should not be shared online.

Music:

This half term we will be having specialist music lessons, alongside singing assemblies.

French:

We will be learning to name animals in French and describe them using colour and numbers.

13th January 2020

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year and we are delighted to welcome to Mrs Blakeley to our team!

We have another busy term ahead of us and the children will be continuing to work hard and have fun across the curriculum. We have interesting and engaging topics planned to spark their interest, including finding out about Australia in our geography topic, 'Walkabout'. In Science the children will be deepening their knowledge of light by planning and carrying out a range of Science investigations in order to solve a hypothetical crime.

Additionally, on 12th and 13th February we are holding parents evenings where you will have the opportunity to meet us more formally. If you wish to see any of us before this, please catch us at the end of the school day or make an appointment with the office.

We are keen for the children in Year 5 and 6 to be role models for the school and to this end we request that they wear school uniform consisting of grey trousers or skirt and a white shirt and tie (Year 6). Leggings are both comfortable and warm for girls in the colder months but as they maybe thin and can split, we request that a skirt be worn over the top. Thank you for your co-operation.

In PSHE the children have been discussing what they access on the internet both at home and in school. Throughout this unit of work, the children will learn about the importance of keeping information about themselves private and what not to share online. We will also raise awareness that certain apps and websites have a suggested age rating and will show the children how they can find these out to ensure that they are keeping themselves safe. If you have any questions or concerns about your child regarding e-safety or the apps or programs that they are using online then please make an appointment to speak to your child's class teacher.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Harwood Mrs Robinson and Mrs Blakeley



Useful information for this half term...

- Please ensure your child brings their P.E. kit in on Monday and leaves it at school all week as PE days will change to facilitate our planning time as a team.
- Your child will receive spellings to learn weekly. They should also be practising their times tables daily.
- Your child should read every night. Please ensure that you read with your child daily, or have checked they have completed their reading. Their reading record should be signed every day.
- **SATs Information Evening: Thursday 16th January 4.45pm**
- **Parents Evenings: Wednesday 12th and Thursday 13th February**

Ways to help your child at home...

- Make it clear to your child that you value homework – set aside a specific time and area for your child to work on their homework.
- Encourage your child to read a variety of texts and genres, not just books brought home from school. Listen to your child read and ask them questions about the text to help develop their understanding.
- Encourage your child to practise their mental maths skills regularly, such as their times tables.
- Help your child to be organised – Are there any letters for me in your book bag? Is your completed homework in your bag? Have you got your P.E. kit? Do you need anything for after-School club?

Additional information for parents of Year 6 children

Homework will continue to be given to the children every Friday. It will include a variety of tasks based on the English, Maths and Grammar work they have been learning in class. All children have been given a plastic folder by their class teacher. This folder needs to be handed in by Thursday at the latest each week. We encourage children to revisit their homework once it has been marked to ensure that they have understood the tasks. If your child is struggling with their homework, please remind them to speak to their class teacher to ask for help; we will do our best to support the children with this.

Some Year 6 children have been invited to boosters after school; if your child has a letter about this please sign it and return it to their class teacher as soon as possible. For some children there will also be spelling boosters on Thursday mornings– again please sign and return any permission slips.

At the beginning of May children in year 6 will be completing their SATs assessments. We will be holding a **SATs information evening** for parents which we hope you will find helpful on **Thursday 16th January 2020**.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

Mrs H. Harwood, Mrs J. Robinson and Mrs S. Blakeley

