



Year 6 - Autumn Term 2 - Curriculum Newsletter

Blackthorn Primary School

Reading and English

This term, we are immersing the children into our science unit – variation and adaptation. We will be using the text ‘Darwin’s Dragons’ and ‘Shackleton’ to bring these concepts to life throughout written outcomes. The children will be unpicking texts using a variety of drama for learning techniques and will apply their understanding through the genres of recounts, non-chronological reports, persuasive writing and recounts.

As always, the children will be continuing to focus on their grammar techniques; especially the use of subordinating and coordinating conjunctions, relative clauses, and parenthesis.

Throughout the term, children continue to be encouraged to review their understanding of descriptive techniques.

Maths

Having consolidated our knowledge of place value and operations in Autumn 1, Year 6 are progressing onto our next mathematical concept – fractions.

This term children will be applying their knowledge of multiplication and division to finding equivalents and simplifying fractions. We will also be exploring how to work with fractions and the four operations. Further to this, children will be exploring a variety of methods, using both concrete resources and pictorial representations, to demonstrate their reasoning and understanding.

Our RE lessons this term will carry on with the focus on ‘What it’s like to be a Muslim’. The children will learn more specifically about Sawm (Fasting – Ramadan) and Hajj (pilgrimage).

In our weekly Science lesson, children will investigate the concept of variation by exploring differences between individuals of the same species. Pupils will learn how characteristics are inherited from one generation to the next. They will be able to describe how animals and plants adapt to changes in their environment to increase their chances of survival. We will learn that these changes are a result of natural selection and that - over long periods of time - this can result in the evolution of new species, as described by Charles Darwin in his book, ‘On the Origin of Species’.

This term our topic in Geography is Africa. Each lesson will centre around a particular physical or human aspect of geography. We will explore and establish that Africa is a more diverse place than is stereotypically perceived. Children will learn about the variation in terrain, climate, economy and distribution of resources. The children will access this knowledge through a range of sources such as maps, charts, diagrams and reading material.

Every day will end with class story time. This is a wonderful way to engage the children in reading and hopefully develop a love of reading that will stay with them.

Ways to help at home:

- Revise times-table daily
- Read often – Change book weekly
- Learn to spell unfamiliar words (Year 6 spelling list)
- Complete homework to build on learning in school

Other information:

- P.E will be on a Friday afternoon.
- Homework will be set either on Office 365 or paper every Thursday and will be expected to be completed by the following Thursday.
- Children have passwords for the online platforms: Mangahigh, and Myon. These can all be accessed at home.