



Mears Ashby C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Sycamores Class – Autumn Term 2018-2019



Our PE day this term is:

Wednesday

Please make sure full kit is in school and that children can remove their own jewellery.

Mr McAllister / Mr Porch

Our theme this term is:

South of the Equator

Homework:

Reading each night (including Reading Eggs), spellings, times tables and take home tasks. Homework will be given out on a **Thursday**. Please return by the following **Tuesday**.

What we will be learning:

Thematic – South of the Equator

We will begin our theme by planning a voyage across the three most populated continents below the Equator (South America, Africa and Australia). This will involve locating countries of their choice on a world map, creating classroom decorations based on their countries and presenting to the class their journey in a fun and creative way!

Then over the course of the following twelve weeks, we will work our way eastward from South America through to Australia, learning about some of the geography, history, culture, art and wildlife contained on each major continent in the southern hemisphere, before finishing our theme with an exploration of Christmas in Australia!

English

Before half term, we will be reading 'The Shaman's Apprentice' and writing diaries based upon somebody exploring the Amazon rainforest for the first time, as well as creating animal fact files and poetry based upon a range of animals native to the southern hemisphere chosen by the pupils.

After half term, we will focus more on issues based around conservation of natural habitats such as the Great Barrier Reef, and creating a range of persuasive and newspaper style reports about these issues. We will also enjoy reading and writing our interpretations of aboriginal 'dreamtime' creation myths.

Maths (stand-alone to thematic curriculum)

In Year 4 and 5, times tables are an important part of the curriculum, so to ensure everyone is secure in their knowledge of these will be doing weekly/daily practise and work related to these. Please practise these as much as possible at home: any practise will make a huge difference! Besides times tables, we will also work through key areas of

number knowledge, such as place value, decimals, fractions and the four operations of mathematics.

Along with these we will also be exploring our knowledge of shape and time alongside developing our skills of handling data and measuring accurately.

RE: Stories of faith

This unit focuses on why the ancient stories of the Bible are still so significant for Christian communities today. The unit enables pupils to enjoy some great stories and also to explore and reflect on the deeper meanings contained within them. It enables them to creatively explore the ways these stories speak today about relationships, safety and danger, vulnerability and beliefs about the 'hand of God' in human life. The stories chosen will act as a platform for exploring beliefs with pupils.

Science

Living things and their habitats – In this unit we will learn how to classify living things by their characteristics as well as look in detail at environments which have changed and how this can pose a threat to the life which exists there.

Plants – We will identify and describe the functions of different parts of flowering plants: roots, stem/trunk, leaves and flowers. We will also explore the requirements of plants for life and growth (air, light, water, nutrients from soil, and room to grow) and how they vary from plant to plant