

Year 4 Curriculum Newsletter Spring 2019

History and Mystery of Brownsea

English:

In English, the children will be using the story 'Floodland' to inspire them to write their own mystery story based on Brownsea Island. In detail, they will look at the description of settings and varying sentence structure to change the mood of a piece of writing. Through imaginative vocabulary, the children will create their own mystery stories following a similar structure to the text.

Maths:

We will be developing understanding of fractions and decimals. They will also continue to practise number skills like adding and subtracting.

There will continue to be a big push on ensuring that the children are secure in their times tables knowledge - please keep the practice up at home too!

P.E: The children will be improving their gym skills during indoor lessons and learning how to play tri-golf outside.

Computing: We will be exploring computer programming using Kodu Game Lab.

RAP: This half term the children will be learning about Judaism and the Jewish way of life.

French: By the end of the topic, the children will know how to say some body parts in French.

Topic:

Our topic for this half term is all about Brownsea Island. In this topic, the children will go on a journey from the Iron Age with the Celts and Vikings; to the great plague of London; the building of Brownsea Castle and finishing with the 'Demon of Brownsea'.

Towards the start of this term we will be going on a boat trip around Brownsea which is being provided free of charge by a joint venture between The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds Poole & District Members Group, Birds of Poole Harbour Education Charity and the Sound Approach. (4B/4D - 9th January 2019, 4G/4J - 25th January 2019)

Reading:

This half term, we are reading 'Floodland'; an extraordinary novel set some time in the not too distant future in a land that has been reclaimed by the sea. Zoe has been left alone by her parents to face the future as the surrounding waters continue to rise.

Recommended Reading:

- Flood and Fang by Marcus Sedgewick
- Midwinterblood by Marcus Sedgewick
- Ghosts and Gadgets by Marcus Sedgewick

Science and Geography:

In Science and Geography we will be learning about the water cycle.

The children will:

- Describe and understand key aspects of the water cycle.
- Describe and understand key aspects of human geography including economic activity, trade links and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water supplies.
- Learn about Bernard Palissy.

Jigsaw (PSHCE): Dreams and Goals

During this topic, the children will understand that it is important to have hopes and dreams.

Additionally, they will learn about the importance of resilience if their dream does not come true and how to draw upon positive and happy times to help them overcome their disappointments. They will then learn how to set new plans to achieve a new goal.

Home-learning:

In Science we have been learning about different materials and their properties.

For this topic's home-learning task, we would like the children to design and make an instrument that uses a range of materials to make different sounds. E.g. Elastic band guitar or tin and rice maracas. The children should be creative with their ideas.

Home-Learning is due in on Monday 4th February 2019