

Curriculum Newsletter

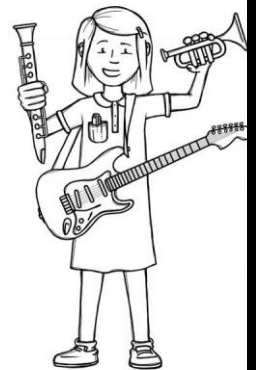
Elm Class

Spring
Term



As artists, we will be experimenting by combining materials and processes to design and make a 3D form. We are looking specifically at the natural world, linking with our 'Mother Nature' dance piece and our geography topic on climate change and will be using mouldable materials and our textile and sewing skills to create 3D animal masks/sculptures, papier mâché globes and material representations of earth, wind, rain and fire.

This term in our musician lessons we are delighted to have been accepted into the Chorister Outreach Programme which is facilitated by Devon Music Education Hub in conjunction with Exeter Cathedral. This is a fantastic singing opportunity for the children who will receive free workshops from a skilled vocal practitioner together with a visit from a cathedral chorister. The children will work towards a large-scale performance at Exeter Cathedral.



As mathematicians, we will be continuing to look at multiplication and division and fractions, as well as exploring length and perimeter, area, decimals, percentages and statistics. The Year 4s will be continuing preparations for the National Multiplication Check (taking place in the summer term), revising their times-tables from 2 to 12. The Year 5s will continue to deepen their knowledge by revisiting some previously taught concepts and furthering their problem solving and reasoning skills.





As readers, we will continue with our weekly complete comprehension texts, developing our skills in inference, summarising and prediction. Texts to be covered this term include Little Women, How to Train your Dragon and The Wizards of Once. As a class, we are continuing to enjoy reading Danny Chung does not do Maths by Maisie Chan, and Toto, The Wizard of Oz by Michael Morpurgo. The children will continue to read independently throughout the week, and at times 1:1 with an adult.

As authors, we will be moving on to a new Power of Reading sequence 'Gorilla' by Anthony Browne. The book supports the children to learn about the interrelationship between illustrations and text. Settings and characters are well drawn, and 'Gorilla' offers a strong example to explore character development, write in role and to explore themes in children's literature. The children's writing outcomes will include letter writing, narrative recount, conversation between characters and producing an illustrated sequel.



As geographers, we will be investigating how climate change is affecting the world. We will be looking specifically at communities in The Gambia, changing weather patterns in Australia and Greenland, and understanding why some coastal towns are having to make flood resilience plans. We will explain how global warming is affecting weather around the world and discuss how countries and communities have acted to reduce global warming. We will consider how we can all contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.



As historians, we will be considering whether the story of the Trojan horse is historical fact, legend or myth? We will describe the main events in the siege of the city of Troy during the Trojan War in Ancient Greece. We will also be critiquing the archaeological evidence which presently exists regarding the Trojan Horse and the Lost Kingdom of Atlantis and begin to formulate conclusions as to its reliability and trustworthiness.



As engineers, we will be working on textiles and combining different fabric shapes. The children will create a 3D textile product made from a combination of pattern pieces and different fabrics. They will learn to select from and use a range of tools and equipment to make their product and accurately assemble and finish it within the constraints of time, resources and cost.



In computing, we will be learning about how to produce and formulate spreadsheets, writing for different audiences, creating logos, and producing short pieces of animation.

As athletes, we will continue to develop our dance knowledge and skills this term, looking at patterning, sequencing, musicality, timing and creative choreography. The children will work towards a final performance piece based around the theme of mother nature. Later in the term we will have a focus on the game of cricket.





As philosophers, in PSHE we will be considering how we as individuals can keep safe, as well as discussing rights and respect. The children will look at decision dilemmas and how to spot bullying. They will debate facts versus opinions and consider how to spend wisely. In RE, we will be looking at how food and fasting are used in different religions. This will include Jewish kosher foods, fasting during Ramadan, the Christian period of Lent and how food is used for celebrations. After half term, we will be looking at creation stories from major religions and creation stories from around the world.

As scientists, we will be looking at 'properties of materials' in the first half term. This will be followed by a study on 'sound' in the second half term. The children will experiment with separation, hardness, transparency, magnetism and thermal and electric conductivity. They will then go on to investigate how sound travels, pitch, volume and distance.



As linguists, the Year 4's will continue to study the Minimus text looking at the lives of a real family at the Roman fort of Vindolanda. The Year 5's will move on to read Minimus Secundus (the sequel to Minimus, combining the comprehensive teaching of Latin vocabulary and grammar with a further insight into the culture of Roman Britain.)