



Year 3 Spring Term 1

Happy New Year. I hope you all enjoyed the festive break. This half term we have lots of exciting things instore for you with the start of our new geography topic on volcanoes and earthquakes. We have a Volcanologist planned to visit us, who will show us lots of pictures about her trips and experiences of volcanoes. Remember to look at the latest news on <https://gillibrand.lancs.sch.uk/> and follow us on twitter at [@GPSWillow](https://twitter.com/GPSWillow) for weekly updates of what we get up to in Year 3!

Important Dates:

Tuesday 4th January- Return to school

Tuesday 5th January- Extreme Earth Launch

21st January 2022 – Volcanologist visit

Monday 7th February- Whole School Zoo visit

Tuesday 8th February- Parent Workshop at 2pm

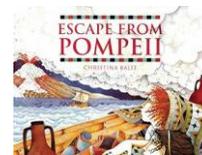


Phonics

We will continue to look at Phase 6 phonics using the prefixes and suffixes that we have learnt last half term and start to use – ‘un’, ‘dis’, and ‘mis’. We will continue to practise spellings form Year 2 and the Year 3 list.

English

This half term we will start to look at the book ‘Escape from Pompeii’. This story follows the escape from the volcanic disaster in Pompeii by two friends. We will use our knowledge of the story to create our own version of by creating and developing a new setting , and new characters. We will then send our versions to the author, Christina Balit to share our amazing work. As part of this story, we will look at the facts surrounding this disaater and create diary extracts and explanation texts, using our geography skills to explain how earthquakes and volcanoes are created. Towards the end of the half term we will revisit poetry, as the children really enjoyed writing their ‘Reble Poems’ with the poet Matt Goodfellow. This time we will write our own version of the sound collector, adding the sounds that they could collect around the school, before using instruments to accompany the poem.



Reading

Last half term the class really enjoyed reading the story of ‘The Ironman’ by Ted Hughes. This was made even better as we had a whole class set of books so that meant that the children were able to follow the story and join in, reading to the whole class if they wanted to. This half term we will be reading the book: ‘When the Giant Stirred’ by Celia Godkin. This is a story of an island that is both formed and destroyed by a volcano.

Maths

This half term in maths we will be looking at shape. We will be drawing 2-D shapes and making 3-D shapes using modelling materials. We will also recognise 3-D shapes in different orientations and use our knowledge of properties shape to describe them. We will continue to look at adding and subtraction using the column method. After we have looked at this concept, we will be using money to solve problems of finding change or how much we have altogether.

Computing

This half term we will be looking at coding using the program Scratch Junior. We will start to identify and correct errors in algorithms and programs. We will also use our basic skills to create fact files for our topic on volcanoes.

ART

This half term we will be looking at the artist- Yayoi Kusama to create our own versions of her art work to produce a print pattern. Make and use printing blocks. We will start by sketching our designs using different harnesses of pencils to show line, tone and texture. This will enable us to make an indentation to be created at various degrees so that the print will look effective.

PE

In PE we will be learning Judo! With the expert tuition of Antony, a local Judo instructor, we will be learning skills in co-ordination, balance, fitness as well as basic Judo techniques.

PSHE

We will be starting a new unit called 'Rights and Responsibilities'. We will look at who helps us in school and responsibilities that they have. We will link this with our RE and look at why people volunteer and what we can do to improve our own wellbeing.

Topic

This half term we will be starting our topic launch of Volcanoes and Earthquakes. The children will begin by looking at volcanoes and the process which occurs when it erupts. We will also develop our mapping skills when looking at volcanoes around Europe, looking in particular at Mount Vesuvius, in Pompeii. We will then begin to look at earthquakes and why they happen. We will then use geographical terminology to describe this process. Towards the end of the term we will start to look at where earthquakes commonly occur and how these areas are geographically different in comparison to where we live. We will also look at the questions: do earthquakes and volcanoes occur in the same places?

Music

This half term the children will be focusing on using the recorder. How we hold our fingers and looking at FACE on the musical staff. We will produce simple tunes using the notes: B, A and G.

French

We will continue to learn to use simple greetings in order to talk about ourselves. We will also reinforce colours and numbers and then move onto learning about days of the week. We will be using songs, rhyme and stories.

RE

This half term we will be looking at Christianity and Jesus. We will look at the question: What does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus? We will explore what it means to be a follower of Jesus – both at the time of Jesus and today. We will also look at why Jesus is special to Christians and why he is described as a 'light to the world', someone who brought hope to the world. We will finish by looking at how we can make a difference in the world.

Science

This half term we will be starting our new topic of 'Materials', looking at rocks and soils. We will be looking at comparing and grouping different kinds of rocks based on their appearance and physical properties. We will also look at how fossils are formed and explain what soil is made from.