



Pygora Class Newsletter Term 1&2

Our topic for Term 1

In Term 1, our BIG question is 'What on earth is a Natural Disaster?' We will be finding out about the different types, what causes them and where they occur most frequently. In geography, we will be refining our map skills to ensure that we know how to find the key areas where volcanic eruptions happen on a map. Within this, we will be studying the tectonic plates which cover our world and investigating how these can cause some natural disasters. We will also be looking closer to home at flooding, specifically why certain areas are prone to flooding and what we do to try and reduce the risk. In PSHCE, we will be learning at how communities pull together when a Natural Disaster happens and the charities which support these causes. We will also focus on developing our 'Growth Mindset' and 'The power of yet!' please ask your children about this. If you hear them say: "I can't do this..." please encourage them by saying "Yet!" and speak to them about how they can learn to do this when they have more practise. In art, we will be looking at adding texture into our paintings and then creating a volcano painting - we will be spending a whole day doing this! For our DT work, we will be creating volcanoes out of Modroc and will be hopefully getting them to erupt - safely of course! We are also going to be investigating structures and how different buildings can withstand an earthquake.

Our topic for term 2

In Term 2, our BIG question is 'What would Britain be like without World War 2.' Although our big focus will be how the role of women has changed since the war, we will also be focusing on the key events of WW2, who fought alongside Britain from different countries around the world and then who helped to rebuild Britain after the War. The children will be expected to order key events and produce their own timelines. This topic links really well with some PSHCE work where we will be looking at gender and race equality. For our art work, we will be exploring propaganda art, focusing on colour and the message presented. We will also be exploring the importance of good mental health and the ways we can look after our minds as well as our bodies.

Class news:

I would like to start by saying that it has been a absolute pleasure to welcome back and introduce myself to Pygora class. The children have been wonderful and very welcoming to me and I would like to thank them for that. They have all come in with a great work ethic and are working hard in class, I think they're pleased to be back! As the children have missed some key objectives from Year 4, we are carefully tailoring our curriculum to cover these alongside teaching the Year 5 curriculum. This will ensure that they prepared for their move to Year 6. We are very lucky to have three adults in the classroom; myself, Mrs Farrar and Miss Winfield. We will all be working closely together to ensure that we provide the very best for the children. Some children will be working in small groups with Mrs Farrar and Miss Winfield to build upon what they have learnt in lesson times, to ensure that they have fully understood what has been taught. It is **REALLY** important for your child to read regularly at home as this is the gateway to learning in all other subjects. To be able to read at speed but also understand what they are reading at the same time is paramount. Please support your child to do this. We will still be offering a broad and balanced curriculum and our aim is to include some practical activities to make learning as enjoyable as possible! If you have any concerns or questions please email via the office email address where it can be passed on to me. I very excited about the year ahead and teaching your children.

Mr Harrison, Mrs Farrar & Miss Winfield

In Term 1 for English we have been writing diary entries.

We will be focusing on using a variety of punctuation marks including brackets, question marks and exclamation marks.

We have also put ourselves in the position of the characters through drama to help us learn the order of events.

The children will be set personal targets for their writing so please encourage them in their individual areas. We can share these at parent consultation meetings.

Our English work in Term 2, is an animation called 'The piano'. It links well to our topic and hopefully the children will enjoy reading it and producing work about it.

In our Maths for Term 1, we will be focussing first on place value, including rounding and ordering numbers.

We will then move on to working with the four operations - addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Children will use their skills to solve reasoning problems.

We will also look at factors, multiples, prime numbers, squares and cubed numbers.

In Term 2, we will be looking at multiplication, division and measurement.

Please could you practice timetables up to 10's with your child as this will help their number recall and arithmetic.

In Science in Term 1, we will be studying about animal kingdoms and food chains. The children will learn about different predators and how they hunt for food. As part of this topic the children will be producing some videos to help the pupils in our school understand food chains.

In Term 2, we will be looking at Earth and Space. In this topic we will look at the stars and the children will find their own star. We will be learning the order of the planets in terms of distance from the sun. They will also be considering what life would be like living on those planets and what it would be like to travel through space in a rocket.

Our PE days are:

Tuesday - with Elite, we will be refining our football skills.

Wednesday - with Mr Parris, we are learning the rules and skills involved with tag rugby.

On these days your children can come to school in their PE kits. Please ensure they have warm clothes for the winter as we will be outside.

Useful websites

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables>

<http://www.mad4maths.com/>

<https://uk.ixl.com/math/year-6>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects>

<https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-year/year-6>

<https://sciencebob.com/category/experiments/>

<https://www.artforkidshub.com/how-to-draw/>

<https://education.jlab.org/reading/index.html>

How you can help your child:

- *make sure they have plenty of sleep*
- *make sure they have a good breakfast*
- *try to read with them every day*
- *help them to learn their spellings or encourage them to use spelling shed at home*
- *support them in completing any homework tasks*
- *encourage them to speak to an adult if they are having problems with anything*
- *make sure they are on time and in school every day*
- *you could also ask them what they have been learning in school*