

Blencathra Newsletter

Dear Blencathra Parents and Carers,

Here is a summary of the Curriculum for
Blencathra class for the Summer Term 2023

Our topic this term is
Angry Earth



English

Poetry – We will be focusing on looking at a range of poems types based on volcanoes. We will be looking at the vocabulary the authors use, talk about our likes and dislikes, performing the poems using our voices and body parts as percussion instruments, writing our own poems, looking at alliteration, similes and metaphors.

Fiction – We will be reading 'The Firework Makers Daughter' and completing written activities focusing on developing characters. We will be identifying with the main character, having empathy with the main character, understand the relationships between the characters, follow the journey of the main character, before planning and writing our own story set in Asian culture.

Over the term, we will be looking at editing and improving our work.

Grammar and Punctuation – We will be continuing our work on word classes. When writing our stories, we will be using punctuation to build suspense, We will be also focus on fronted adverbials to begin our sentences in different ways.

Spelling – All children will have 3 spelling sessions a week in an appropriate group. They will have a spelling test on a Friday. We encourage the children to practise their spellings on Spelling Shed both in school and at home.

Art and D&T

Mechanical systems: Pneumatic toys – We will be drawing accurate diagrams with the correct labels, arrows and explanations, correctly identifying definitions for key terms, identifying appropriate design criteria, communicating ideas using sketches, communicating and developing one idea using an exploded diagrams, selecting appropriate equipment and materials to build a working pneumatic system, assembling my pneumatic system within the housing to create the desired motion, finally creating a finished pneumatic toy that fulfills a design brief.

Sculptures – We will be exploring different materials to make facial sculptures, including paper manipulation. We will looking at the work of sculptures Namu Gabo, Arcimboldo and Andy Goldsworthy before creating our own natural sculptures.

Computing

Data – Branching Databases – We will be developing our understanding of what a branching database is and how to create one. We will use yes/no questions to gain an understanding of what attributes are and how to use them to sort groups of objects. We will be creating physical and on-screen branching databases.

Creating Media – Photo Editing – We will be developing our understanding of how digital images can be changed and edited, and how they can then be resaved and reused. We will be considering the impact that editing images can have, and evaluate the effectiveness of their choices.

Science

We will be continuing to develop our working Scientifically skills. We will be thinking about which enquiry method we are using, once we are more familiar with these, we will be beginning to think about our own lines of enquiry to answer questions.

Electricity – We will be continuing our Electricity unit. We will be recognising that a switch opens and closes a circuit and associate this with whether or not a lamp lights in a simple series circuit. We will be able to recognise some common conductors and insulators, and associate metals with being good conductors. We will be concluding this unit with a visit to Haysham Nuclear Power Station.

Plants – We will be identifying and describing the functions of different parts of plants; roots, stem, leaves and flowers. We will be exploring the requirements of plants for life and growth (air, light, nutrients from soil and room to grow) and how they vary from plant to plant. We will be investigating the ways in which water is transported within plants. Finally, we will be exploring the role of flowers in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination, seed formation and seed dispersal.

Maths

Fractions and decimals – Following the White Rose scheme of work, we will be continuing our work on fractions by looking at fractions of amounts and quantities. Next, we will be moving on to decimals and will know about tenths and hundredths. We will be able to compare, order and round decimals. Before moving on to converting pounds and pence, adding and subtracting money and finding change.

We will also be continuing our Big Maths weekly challenges.

Times Tables – We will be continuing our focus on Times Tables, by completing our Learn Its, singing songs and playing games. This is to support us for the Year 4 Multiplication Times Table Check in June, where we will be able to recall all multiplication facts up to 12×12 .

RE

Buddhism – This term we will be learning about Buddhism. We will begin by thinking about what makes us happy and then investigate whether we think it is possible for everyone to be happy. We will learn about the life of Buddha and explore how he tried to be happy and stay happy.

Music

This term we will be investigating the question "How Does Music Shape Our Way Of Life?". This unit helps us think about how music impacts our everyday life and celebrates a wide range of musical styles. We will be developing our listening, singing, playing, composing and performing skills and will focus on three pieces of music covering gospel, modern jazz and hip-hop.

PE

Athletics – We will practice running technique, how to throw a javelin, standing long jump and triple jump. We will also learn the shot put technique using a tennis ball. We will learn how to complete a relay change over with a partner and will also be taught how to time sprints and measure jumps/throws.

Tennis – We will be moving our body position to catch a ball, control a ball on racket when moving, using varying speeds. We will move on to hit a ball into a target (with one bounce). Leading up to playing a modified game using skills e.g. forehand. We will be playing and creating adapted games, with variations of rules and beginning to apply some basic principles.

PSHE

Mental Health – We will begin to understand that Mental Wellbeing is a normal part of daily life, in the same way as physical health. We will learn that there is a normal range of emotions that we all experience, but that when we/others experience uncomfortable emotions (such as sadness, anxiety or anger) too often or for too long, we need to talk to a trusted adult for help and support.

French

We will be completing our learning on farm animals and pets, before moving on to food and cutlery, school, classrooms, stationary, time and subjects. We continue to use our Salut interactive resource taking part in fun games, stories, singalongs and more!

Humanities (History and Geography)

Angry Earth – We will investigate earthquakes and volcanoes and find out about their impact upon human and physical geography. Our topic will begin with learning about the structure of the earth and then we will find out where and why we find earthquakes and volcanoes today. Children will learn about famous volcanoes such as Vesuvius. Our unit will finish by developing an understanding of how our local area has been affected by its volcanic past!

Uniform

Please come to school wearing the correct school uniform and have the correct PE kit in school everyday. It is also important the children have their hair tied back everyday. This is outlined on our school website: [Uniform Information | Shap Endowed CE Primary School](#)

Homework

Homework encourages independence, self-organisation and is an opportunity to chat about learning at home. No homework should take longer than 30 minutes unless your child would like to do more.

Homework will be set using Microsoft Teams, this will be set on a Monday and is to be handed in via Teams on a Friday (if you are unsure of your child's log in details, please get in touch as soon as possible and we can get these to you).

Children will receive times tables, spelling and reading homework each week along with a mini topic project per half term. This project is to be completed over a number of weeks. It is on Teams and also on our class page on the website.

Worship

This half term, the themes of our Worship time will be: Relationships, St. George's Day, Ascension.

Our Christian Value, will be: Compassion (linked to the nurturing element of our Christian Vision).

Teams

Please remember to check Teams regularly as this is where the weekly homework will be set and a lot of reminders for the children will be given.

Correspondence

If you would like to speak to either of us, please message us through Teams or email (vcapstick@shap.cumbria.sch.uk or sheron@shap.cumbria.sch.uk) and we will get back to you.

What do I need to bring to school?

Everyday:

- Your reading pack
- A waterproof coat
- A water bottle
- A packed lunch (unless you are on school dinners)
- A fresh fruit snack (please can you make sure it is fresh fruit as we have noticed all sorts are being brought in)
- A full PE kit (Please see the following link for a full list [Uniform Information | Shap Endowed CE Primary School](#))

