



Year 5 & 6, Golden Eagle Class,

Spring Term 2021

Welcome back! We have so many fun and exciting things to learn about.

This term our main topics are the local history of Corby and Stanion in Spring 1 and Changes in the Local Environment for our Geography unit during Spring 2.

Literacy – In Literacy, we will be completing a poet study on the work of Michael Rosen and thinking about how to write poetry in the style of his poems as well as perform them to the rest of the class. We are then going to study some contemporary fiction and write short stories in the style of the book which we are going to be studying in our reading. The children will be thinking about how to build tension and suspense within their writing and ensuring the reader feels the emotion of the story being told. During the first half term we will also be writing explanation texts and recapping the skills and styles of writing associated with this genre of writing.

In the second half term, our units of writing in Literacy will be based around writing a recount as well as studying the structure and style of writing of fables.

Reading - Children will continue to earn merit points for reading at home as well as being entered into our new school reading challenge. Five reads = one merit and the potential to be awarded the Gold level reading award. It is so important that children read aloud to an adult regularly but also that they discuss their reading. Asking your children to describe a character to you, retell the events of the story or write a review of a book can all deepen their understanding of the book. It is also important for children to develop the ability to scan a text for information at a greater speed and regular reading supports this.

We will also be having daily reading lessons in school. These will focus on comprehension activities and book discussion. We will be reading the book Room 13 by Robert Swindells during Spring term 1 and Survivors; a non-fiction book by David Long during Spring term 2.

Maths – In maths this term, we will be exploring fractions work during Spring term 1. We will be looking at equivalent fractions and how to find fractions of amounts to recap our knowledge and understanding of the work the children completed last year. We will also be looking at how to add, subtract, multiply and divide fractions and helping the children to show their answers with the answer in the simplest form. Towards the end of the first term the children will look at some ratio work.

In the second half of the term the children will be thinking about our work on place value, addition and subtraction again as well as ensuring the Year 6 children are filling any gaps in their understanding in preparation for the Summer term.

We will also be continuing with weekly mental maths assessments and times table tests.

Science – In Science, we will be learning about Space during the first half term. The children will consider the names, sizes and positions of the planets. We will be looking at how day and night is formed as well as the role of the seasons and how they happen. During the second half of the term we will be thinking about Life Cycles. We will be thinking about what a life cycle is as well as identifying the life cycles of different animals and comparing them. We will be thinking about how we can protect different animals to keep them safe.

PE – Our PE days this term will be Thursday and Friday. We will continue to use the Real PE scheme of work to build the children's skills alongside our Get Set for PE scheme in which we will be working on our dance and gymnastic skills. Please ensure the children have their PE kits in school on these days.

RE- Our focus for Spring term 1 is 'How do religions help people to live through good and bad times?' In this unit we will consider why some people find religion can help them to celebrate the good times and how to cope with the bad times. During this unit we will compare and discuss not only Christian beliefs but also compare with other religions. In the second half of term we will be studying 'Why is pilgrimage so important to some beliefs? We will look at what pilgrimage is and what it means to different religions.

PSHE- We will continue to use the Cambridge scheme for PSHE. In the first half term we will be studying 'Diversity and Communities' and in the second half term we will look at 'Drug Education'.

Art – In our art sessions we will be looking at the use of colour and different colour techniques within art work. During the first half term this work will be focused around Cityscapes and using techniques such as pop art, water colour, ink and the use of palette knives to create texture within art. In the second half term we will be thinking about 'A sense of place' and how we can depict the environment around us in art form.

Computing- This term we will continue to study Internet Safety both discreetly and also as an integral part of our computing lessons. We will continue to follow the Rising Stars units for our computing lessons. Through this scheme, the children will be developing their artistic skills using a range of programmes on the computers with a focus upon tessellating shapes. During the second half term the children will be working collaboratively to develop a website in which they present their own content on the safe and responsible use of the internet.

History- During the first half term we will be studying the history of our local area and thinking about how Stanion has developed as a village. We will also be looking at the development of the school and how it has changed over time. We will also be studying Corby and the growth of the town as well as predicting how the town may develop in years to come. We will do a focused study on the Steel Works and think about what this brought to Corby and the effect it had when it closed.

Design and Technology – During our DT sessions we will be learning about structures and have a focus upon frame structures and building our own using a range of materials.

Spellings - Each child will have weekly spelling lists to learn. Please help your child by learning these spellings and looking at other words with the same letter patterns. Spellings will be tested on Fridays.

Homework – Children will be set a weekly homework comprising of a combination of Maths, Reading, Spelling/Grammar and Writing either in their homework books or through DB Primary. All homework is set on a Friday and is expected to be handed in by the following Wednesday. In addition to this, children will be tested weekly on quick recall of times tables facts and spellings. Please support us by helping your child to practise these at home.

Mrs Findlay

Class Teacher