

# Spring Term Newsletter 2024

## Year 5&6 - Golden Eagle Class

Welcome back!! We hope that you have all had a really lovely Christmas holiday and the children have all had lots of fun and also the opportunity to relax! We are really looking forward to the new year and can't wait to begin all of the new, wonderful topics of learning!

### Literacy

In writing this term we will be looking at four main units of work based around retelling narratives, discussion texts, explanation texts and news reports. The children will be writing from a variety of viewpoints and will be writing in both formal and informal styles. We will be securing our understanding of relative pronouns and clauses as well as developing our understanding of some of the higher level aspects of punctuation.

### Maths

In maths this term, we will be exploring measures and will look at length, mass and capacity. The children will then move onto understanding ratio and algebra. We will then look back at our fractions work again and move onto thinking about how to multiply and divide fractions before finishing the term developing our understanding of shape further.

We will complete regular arithmetic and reasoning practise throughout our lessons to build the children's skills and confidence further.

### Reading

In Reading this term we will be reading 'The Hatmakers' by Tamzin Merchant. We will be studying the characters and plotline in depth and use our VIPERS skills to discuss the book.

**V = Vocab, I = Inference, P = Predict, E = Explain, R = Retrieval, S = Summarise**

**Children will continue to earn merits and rewards for reading. Every Friday they will have the chance to appear on our reading board.**

**Bronze = 3 reads per week**

**Silver = 4 reads per week**

**Gold = 5 reads per week**

**Platinum = 7 reads per week**

**The children are expected to sign their reading record each night when they read and hand it in each morning.**

### Science

In Science this term we will be learning all about living things and their habitats and how to classify them. The children will think about identifiable similarities and differences which help them to form groups as well as the work of Carl Linnaeus. After half term we will move onto our work on light. The children will be thinking about how light travels and how our eyes are designed to help us to see. We will finish the unit by thinking about shadows and how they are formed.

### Music

In our music lessons this term we will take part in an exciting ten week course of Samba drumming. NMPAT will be coming in to deliver these sessions on a Tuesday afternoon and I am sure the children will all love it.

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### RE

Our focus for this term will be our other faiths unit. We will be focusing upon 'What it means for a Muslim to follow God' and so studying the religion of Islam. During this unit the children will think about how many Muslims live within our local area, how Muslims live their lives and the five pillars of Islam. We will be thinking about pilgrimage and charity as part of our work into Islam too. Before we break up for Easter we will also be thinking about our 'Understanding Christianity' work and will be doing some work based around the key question 'What difference does the resurrection make for Christians?'

### Geography

In Geography we will be comparing our region to the Western United States of America. In this unit, children will recap the key human and physical features of their region in England. Children will discover the different countries and capital cities of North America and then focus on specifically the Western United States. Children will learn the human and physical features of the Western United States including biomes, climate zones, vegetation belts, earthquakes and volcanoes. Children will learn about the physical processes of rivers, mountains and the water cycle and apply this to their region and the Western United States

### PE

This term our PE days are Monday and Friday and so the children will need to ensure they have the correct equipment in school on these days. Our units of work for Spring 1 are Dance and Badminton and for Spring 2 we will be studying Gymnastics and will invite Northampton Saints Rugby club in to teach tag rugby.

### Art

In Art this term we are going to be exploring installation art and creating our own 3d pieces of artwork inspired by Cai Guo-Qiang,

### DT

In DT this term we are going to be designing and making a pop-up book. The children will investigate and use a range of structures and mechanisms within their designs.

### Computing

Our computing lessons this term will focus around computers; past and present. We will also do skill studies focusing on the use of graphic design, HTML and image editing.

### PSHE

Our PSHE lessons this term are focusing around how we can keep ourselves safe and understanding rights and respect.