



Bratton Primary School

Engagement - Resilience - Integrity

Headteacher: Mr Ian Bolton

T: 01380 830511

E: admin@bratton.wilts.sch.uk

W: www.bratton.wilts.sch.uk

Happy New Year and welcome back to another term!

This term we will be looking at a new topic: China. We will be learning about where China is, what it is like to live in the Urban and Rural areas and discover the famous attractions that are located there. We will look at China's economic growth and the affect tourism has on the country: good and bad. In addition, we will find out about the Shang Dynasty of China- what it was like during that time for the soldiers, ordinary people and the Kings. Chinese New Year is on the 25th January so we will look into how this is celebrated and the Chinese traditions that take place around this time.

In Maths, we will spend a week completing our work on length, perimeter and area, using our learning to answer questions that combine the two measurements for squares, rectangles and rectilinear shapes. Year 5 pupils will spend this time to recap their learning and extend this to finding the area of compound shapes and estimating the volume of cubes and cuboids. Then, we will cover fractions, reminding ourselves of how to find halves, quarters and thirds of an object or shape, before all children apply this knowledge to adding and subtracting fractions, finding equivalents and simplifying fractions. Children in Year 5 will begin to add and subtract fractions with different denominators and convert between mixed numbers and improper fractions. This learning will link to decimals, where we will use previous learning to round to the nearest whole number, order, compare and solve problems with decimals. Year 5 pupils will link this learning to working out the decimal and fraction equivalents.

This term in English, we will begin by writing a ballad, we will look at the 'Ballad of Mulan' to begin with and think about writing one of our own based loosely on a fairy-tale we already know. Then, we will begin creating an information leaflet for a children's tourist company, informing children about the Great Wall of China. Finally, we will write our own set of instructions for a recipe based around the book 'Beware of Boys' by Tony Blundell.

Guided Reading sessions will continue, developing the children's discussions around books and identifying how this can influence and build comprehension skills. Vocabulary development, spellings and word recognition will be a focus to develop through the use of word games and activities. In addition, activities will be set to promote reading for pleasure, as the children dive into the meaning behind characters' feelings, choices and the book's events. One to one reading will be a key focus this term, ensuring all of the children are being heard, by an adult, at least once a week. Thank you for continuing to read at home with the children.

Our Science topic this term will be Earth and Space; the children will learn about the eight planets and research information about each one. We will look at the phases of the moon and how it is affected by the

Earth's rotation. In addition, we will explain the concept of gravity, focusing on the differences between Earth and the moon.

This term Art will be linked to the topic of China; we will explore the history of Chinese art and the importance of the dragon symbol. We will have a go at recreating the art piece: 'Four Gentlemen' (bamboo, plum blossom, orchid and chrysanthemum) using water colours and discuss its meaning.

PE will continue to be taught every Wednesday by the sports coaches and on Friday afternoon we will have PE lessons on gymnastics, linking Tai Chi into some lessons. Please ensure the children bring in the full, correct and named PE kit into school on these days, also can we ask that you please check that it is returned to school if used at any after school clubs.

In addition, this term Antelope children in Year 5 will join Year 5 Meerkats in Forest school (outdoor learning) on Wednesday afternoons. Please ensure they have a change of warm clothes that you do not mind getting muddy and a pair of wellies.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or queries. I am available for a chat afterschool, in person or by phone, and I am always happy to make appointments for further discussions.

We look forward to the exciting learning we have ahead this term.

Kind regards,

Miss Kirsty McMillan, Mrs Sarah Smith, Mrs Kim Harvey and Miss Nicola Shaw
Antelope team