



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

Dear Parents and families,

Welcome back to Giraffe class; we hope you all had a lovely Easter holiday.

In Maths this term, the children will continue to consolidate their calculation skills, by investigating units of measure. They will start the topic off by learning how to use different measuring tools accurately and using these to measure a variety of different objects, around the classroom and the school. These concepts will then progress onto the children using their multiplication and division skills to convert between units of measurement, such as: mm, cm and m; ml and l and g and kg. The children will also start to learn about reading a clock and telling the time. This will include telling the time in 12-hour and 24-hour formats. The children will learn to read the time with accuracy to the nearest minute, as well as understand how many seconds are in a minute, minutes in an hour, hours in day, days in a month and months in a year.

In English lessons the children will be focusing on three genres: diary entries, newspaper reports and performance poetry. Through these genres they will develop their writing skills, but also their GHaSP skills (grammar, handwriting, spelling, punctuation). When learning about diary entries the children will explore the use of informal language, as well as what skills go into making a successful diary extract. These skills will consist of using fronted adverbials, time connectives, varied sentence starters, past tense and writing in first person. In the middle of the term, the children will learn to write a newspaper report, understanding how to create a catchy title but also how to write speech from reporters interviewing witnesses. This will relate to our topic this term of volcanoes but also our science topic on rocks. Towards the end of the term, the children will learn a poem and as a group think about expression and tone when performing the poem to the rest of the class. We will then evaluate our poems and give each other constructive feedback in order to improve our performances and then film them.

In guided reading lessons the children will continue to have specific sessions involving a number of different activities, such as: reading comprehensions, dictionary and thesaurus work, inference activities, spelling and looking at a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts. This term we are particularly focussing on: furthering our inference and comprehension skills, as these are the areas identified from the end of term assessments that need further development. Our class book this term will be 'The pebble in my pocket' which will mainly be used in English lessons, but also links to our new topic.

This term's topic will be volcanoes. The children will learn about the layers of the earth and what is underneath us. Volcano formation will be explored, as well as how eruptions can affect people's lives. This will include studying the largest and most active volcanoes in the world and taking part in investigations, such as exploring lava flow and making our own volcanoes that erupt.

Other areas of the curriculum will also be taught through this topic. For example, in science, the children will be observing rocks and looking at how over time their shape and size change. These rocks will then be sorted into groups based on whether they have grains or crystals and whether they have fossils in them. Rock investigations will take place so the children can understand how fossils are found in sedimentary rock and how they are formed. The children will use what they have learned this term to create an engaging information leaflet on rocks and volcanoes to share with other children in the school.

In PE the children will be taught cricket skills by Miss Wozniak and Football by myself. In football lessons we will be focussing on: controlling a ball using the correct part of the foot, dribbling and passing to a partner, how to defend and attack in a game situation and how to work as a team.

In art the children will be using a range of mediums through drawing images of volcanoes. Their first draft will be done in a sketching style of black and white. Their second image will be done using paint and objects for printing e.g. sponge for grass and the end of a paintbrush for lava and their final image will be using water colours and blending techniques. During the term, the children will also be creating their own 3D Paper Mache volcanoes, to be used in an eruption experiment.

The Big Write will continue to take place every other Friday, with talk homework given out on the Thursday. Please ensure you take some time to talk with your child about their ideas and what they will be writing about, as discussing and generating their ideas with you will help them massively when they come to the Big Write on Friday.

Homework will be given out on a Thursday and will be due in the following Monday. The homework tasks will build on and consolidate an aspect of learning that your child has completed throughout the week. Your child should spend about 20-30 minutes (independently) on a homework task and no more. If it is taking your child longer than this, please stop the task after this time. Homework is given to consolidate learning and if your child is finding something difficult then I am more than happy for them to see me about this on Friday or Monday and I can work through it with them.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Regards,

Mrs Stokes and Mrs Smith
Giraffe Class team