



Clawton Primary School

Clawton, Holsworthy, Devon, EX22 6QN

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Headteacher: Mrs Maryl Steyn



8 September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a wonderful first week back. I have been so impressed with the positive and energetic atmosphere that has filled the school. I have thoroughly enjoyed hearing about the children's summer holidays and the different activities that they got up to!

As a team of staff, we have been working hard to create an interesting and engaging curriculum that covers our Four Cornerstones – Academic, Character, Community and Innovation. You will find our class topic over views attached to this letter which will give you a great overview about what will take place in Clawton this term.

The summary below of all of our units that we are covering this term hopefully creates a picture of the golden thread of learning that is taking place throughout the year groups. The children at Clawton start off by learning about themselves, their history, individuals, periods in history, Britain as a country and then Europe.

Our learning journey starts in our Owls Class, where the preschool children's unit is titled What Makes Me, Me? They look back at how they were when they were babies and how they have changed over time. Through this unit, the Owls will learn about how they can stay healthy with a balanced diet and exercise.

As we move into our Hedgehog Class with Reception and Year 1 children, the theme moves on to looking at similarities and differences with a unit titled "Is it OK to be different?" During this unit, the children will build on the skills learnt in Owls and will identify what makes us unique. As their History Focus, they will look at the life of Rosa Parks and what she did to bring about change.

In Squirrel Class, our Year 2 children will be looking at how childhood has changed over the years and what has influenced this change. They will compare and contrast historical periods, focusing in on childhood toys. The children will look carefully at how we have changed over our lifetimes and the different stages in human lives.

Fox Class (Year 3 and 4) will be learning about what has influenced our National Identity. Where do we come from? The Fox children will be looking further back in history, learning about the "Invaders and Settlers" and what the Windrush was.

The Badger Class will focus on history in Europe; specifically, World War II and investigate what life was like during that period. They will think about their overarching question – How does international mindedness promote a shared humanity.

Headteacher: Mrs Maryl Steyn

Thank you very much to those of you who were able to attend the Parents' Information Sessions that I ran on Wednesday. These covered the key information that was sent out prior to the holidays. My PowerPoint can be found on Class Dojo. We have already got a busy term ahead and I know that diaries are booked up quickly, so I would like to draw your attention to a few key dates:

- 12th September – Information session with Mr Creek and Mrs Hannam 3pm.
- 19th September – KS2 visit to Rexon Solar Farm
- 20th September – Solar powered toys workshop for KS2
- 19th October – Harvest Service
- 20th October – Last day of term
- 30th October – Term 2 starts
- 7th and 8th November – Parents' Evening (3.30pm – 6pm)
- 17th November – Children in Need
- 13th December – Christmas Dinner / Festive wear
- 14th December – Carol Service
- 15th December – Last day of term

I am looking forward to sending out our next newsletter in a fortnight as I know that there will be lots of exciting news to share about the learning that has been completed.

Kind regards,

Mrs Maryl Steyn

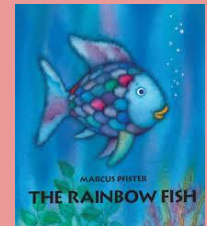
Owl Class - Autumn Term 1 What makes me, me? (Self, Believe)

Academic:

For this term, we will be focusing on ourselves (who am I?) We will look at our similarities and differences. Discover how we looked as a baby as to how we look now. We will focus on the importance of healthy eating and staying healthy through exercise and our diet. We will also look forward to meeting a real baby as we invite Kirsty and her new baby in for a visit.

For our Maths this term, our focus number is 0 and our shape is the circle. We will be working on counting and cardinality within our activities.

For our Literacy, our Talk for Writing Innovation is The Rainbow Fish – which is all about a fish who learns to make friends by sharing.



Character:

We will be focusing on PSED and the Moral character virtues of Compassion, Respect and Empathy which will cover friendship and generosity – and enrichment through Harvest and Children in Need. The children will be encouraged to share and take turns.

We will look to become Inspiring Volunteers/Fundraisers through making and selling chutney and our Inspiring Adventurer award by visiting Beer Mill to discover Autumn.



Community:

We plan on making chutney using our fallen apples to sell to our school and local community. We will be arranging a trip up to Beer Mill to discover all about the Autumn season. We can't wait to meet a real baby as we invite Kirsty in with her baby for a visit.

We are also arranging a visit from the police to talk about their job and to talk to us about DNA and finger print painting. We are looking forward to joining the whole school for a Harvest Festival Service.



Digital and Innovation:

Every Thursday, we enjoy Dutch Klassen Time where the children will enjoy a treat for getting on our reward tree. The children will take part in cooking the Klassen treat that morning.

To encourage creativeness and critical thinking, our Talk for Writing Innovation task will be about The Rainbow Fish. The children will also get creative with making self-portraits of themselves and their friends using a wide range of art materials.

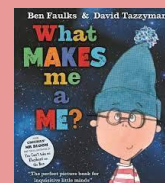


Hedgehog Class – Autumn Term 1

Is it ok to be different?

Academic:

- As masters of maths we will explore number and place value (within 10), addition and subtraction (within 10) and properties of shape.
- As explorers we will learn about how we are different to people all over the world. Do people in different countries dress the same as us and enjoy the same foods and hobbies?
- As speakers, readers and writers we will write and perform poetry based on our senses. We will also label our different body parts and write captions about ourselves.
- Our personal, social and emotional development will focus on what makes us unique. We will learn about how to be a good friend and develop positive relationships.
- As physically active learners we will take part in fundamental movement activities. We will develop our skills in running, jumping, throwing, catching, skipping and hopping.
- As artists we will explore line, shape and colour by creating self-portraits using a range of media.



Character:

Our focus virtues are **Reflection, Respect, Courtesy, Friendliness and Resilience**. We will:

- Explore these virtues in our whole school and class based assemblies.
- Celebrate any virtues we see 'in action' by placing a leaf on our character tree.
- Participate in enrichment activities to help us gain our Inspiring Changemaker Award. We will be Inspiring Skill Builders by taking part in cooking activities, Inspiring Fundraisers by raising money to help fund Nick's education and Inspiring Speakers by performing a story in our Harvest assembly.



Community:

Children will:

- Explore the UN Sustainability Goal 'Quality Education'. What can we do to help disadvantaged children go to school?
- Learn about Rosa Parks and how her actions had an impact on the Civil Rights Movement.
- Learn about how to support people in our local community by donating to the local food bank.
- Learn about how we can become active members of our Global Community, continuing to build strong links with our sponsored child Nick in Uganda through our work with the charity Edukid.
- Celebrate Harvest with the local community and collect items to donate to the food bank.



Digital and Innovation:

This term the children will have opportunities to:

- Create action dances and compose music.
- Draw and paint self-portraits using a range of media to create different textures.
- Use produce from the garden for cooking.
- Take part in storytelling and drama activities.

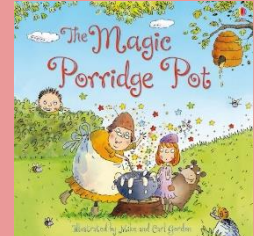


Squirrel Class - Autumn Term 1
How can understanding and celebrating differences help bring people together?
Childhood.

Academic:

This term we are looking at Childhood, focusing on how childhood has changed over the years due to a number of influences.

In English we are going to be looking at the traditional tale, The Magic Porridge Pot. From this text, we will be looking at the virtues of generosity, friendliness, caring and curiosity. The children will be writing an alternative version using their own ideas and imagination. Towards the end of this half term we will create our own family fact file and use this to compare how each family is different.



In maths we are starting with Place Value. This is an important unit in maths which children lay the foundations for numbers. We start with looking at numbers in numerals and words and then move on to ordering and comparing numbers. We will finish this unit by looking at 5, 10 and 3 times tables.

In Science we are starting the term with the Human Body looking at the effects of exercise, food, hygiene and teeth. In History our focus is to know that children's lives today are different to those of children a long time ago. In Geography we will be looking at where we live building on the foundations of what the children learnt in previous years. In PE, our new PE Lead, Miss Smith and I will deliver 2 PE sessions a week based on Multi-skills and invasion games.

Character:

Our focus virtues for this half term are reflection, curiosity, compassion, respect, aspiration and creativity. These will be taught through different lessons in the classroom. There will also be an assembly each week based on our focus virtues.

We try to spot as many virtues in action throughout the school day, even if it is not a focus virtue. If any virtues are spotted at home, please share these with us.

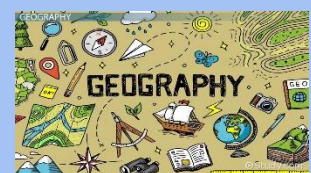
We will also be working towards our Inspiring Adventurer award!



Community:

In our community cornerstone this term, we will be visiting looking at our local community and the wider community as part of our Geography lessons. We will also be inviting parents in to share our school community with you all for a variety of events this term.

Please keep an eye on the calendar for these dates!



Digital and Innovation:

As Innovators this term we will be using all natural resources to create a family portrait.

These items will be collected by the children and then using the skills they have they will create a fantastic portrait of themselves and their families! We are looking forward to sharing these with you later in the term!



Fox Class - Autumn Term 1

What is our national identity?

Academic:

This half term we will be looking at where people in Britain come from. We will be investigating this by looking into the 'invaders' and other major events which changed the characteristics of the population. For example, we will be talking about the Windrush.

In science we will be looking at forces and magnets, investigating how they work and discussing why they are useful.

We will be starting this half term with a small unit on Haikus which will finish with children writing their own Haikus. We will start by looking at what makes a Haiku and how it is different to other poems before using the rules that we have learnt to write our own. Once we have written our poems, we will be looking at Roald Dahl's BFG; concentrating particularly on writing imaginatively about our own big friendly... .

In maths we will be starting the term looking at Number and place value and addition and subtraction. We will also be focussing on getting our timestables learnt and completing our daily Tough Ten challenge.



Character:

We always start the new year with Reflection, looking back on the previous year and identifying the parts of our education journey that went well. We then set our own targets to improve over the next year. Whilst we are researching where people in Britain come from, Fox Class will be using their character virtues of respect and curiosity. When presenting their research to the rest of the class they will be using their virtue of confidence and will show compassion to their peers.

We will be working towards our Inspiring Adventurer challenge, and practicing how to be effective researchers in our lessons.



Community:

We will be visiting the nearby solar farm, Rexon Solar Farm, to see how solar power is produced. There will also be a workshop in school where the children will be making their own solar powered items.

In RE we will be answering the question: What do Hindus believe God is like? We will link this to the British Values and that we show respect for the beliefs of others. In MFL we will be practicing our numbers and saying yes and no in French. We are also singing in French during music which will support children's understanding.

We are looking forward to inviting our families in over the Harvest period and demonstrating so many of our character virtues.



Digital and Innovation:

In DT the children will be designing and making their own mechanical posters which will link to our work in Science around forces.

We are really excited to introduce the Year 3 children to how to use their Chromebooks to support their learning. Children will be using their Chromebook to complete their own research and to access 'Timestable Rockstars' and to complete AR quizzes.

In Art children will be researching and designing their own Anglo-Saxon inspired pots.



Academic:

This half term we are starting to think about why Britain went to war in 1939. We will learn about the allies and the axis, evacuation and the chronology of the war and we will also look at the slogan and messages which were used to encourage people with rationing.

In science we are going to learn about friction. We will investigate air resistance through a parachute experiment and we will also investigate water resistance.

We will start the terms literacy with poetry. This will be war time poetry initially linked to earlier wars. We will study Dulce et Decorum est and In Flanders Field. We will then move on to emotive poetry where we will write our own poems and put these to music and to video.

After poetry, we will have a look at Anne Franks Diary and we will do a virtual tour of the house she hid in in Amsterdam. Just before half term we will start work on newspaper reports.



Maths will consist of place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will also continue with our daily tough ten questions.

Character:

Our character education links very closely with PSHE where we will have lessons on relationships, being assertive, behaving appropriately and drug awareness.



In addition to this, we will use our character virtues as play leaders working with the younger children in school, lunch helpers and of course House Captains and deputies. We will also be voting for our new school council representatives.

We will continue to look out for children who regularly display their character virtues for certificates in our celebration assemblies.

Community:

Within our community we are lucky enough to have local places to visit which will hopefully inspire us to be more environmentally friendly. We will be visiting the Rexon Solar Farm near Roadford lake to see how solar power is produced. We will also have a workshop in school to make solar powered items.

In RE we will try to answer the question: What does it mean if Christians believe God is holy and loving?



For MFL, we will use the Take Brittany scheme and learn about this beautiful region in France where there are many resistance harbours and bunkers left over from the time of German occupation.

Digital and Innovation:

As usual, our chrome books will play an important role this term as we will use them to make films for our poetry, to research our topics, for our Accelerated reader checks and to record many aspects of our learning.



In DT we will design a box to carry a gas mask; we will draw our own propaganda posters and we will do some war time cookery.