



Our topic this term is *Prehistoric Britain: from Stone Age to Iron Age*. We will be stepping back in time and meeting our ancient ancestors.

As Scientists we will explore Evolution and Inheritance. This unit builds on the children's learning from the Year 3 Rocks unit. Children will learn about variation and adaptation. They will be able to explore how both Charles Darwin and Alfred Wallace separately developed their theories of evolution. They will examine the scientific evidence from plants and animals that has been gathered to support the theory of evolution.

Our SEAL themes are *Going for goals* and *Good to be me*. The children will continue to look at the importance of British Values, such as mutual respect and individual liberty.

In R.E. children will read some important stories about the life of Jesus including his baptism. They will know that through Baptism, Christians become the Children of God.

As designers, we will be creating a tapestry of a cave painting image.



As artists, we will look at Cave Paintings.

As computer programmers, we will identify the purpose of writing as well as understanding the features of successful blog writing. Children will understand how a blog can be used as an informative text and be writing from a cave person's point of view. **Online Safety will continue to be a focus, please discuss this with your child especially if you allow them to go online with social media including games and conversations.**

In PE lessons, children will be learning about the game of netball. Children will work as a team to improve group tactics and gameplay, play within the rules using blocking skills for shots and passes as well as developing defensive skills

Children will need their indoor and outdoor P.E. kit in school at all times. Please make sure your child has suitable outdoor kit too (including a warm dark sweatshirt and dark tracksuit bottoms). They need pumps for indoors

and trainers for outdoors. Our PE days are Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. Please check pumps and trainers still fit as some of the children are growing quickly.

As writers we will be reading texts/watching clips that involve stories by famous authors, non-fiction and a variety of narrative texts, including poetry. Children will be introduced to Clive King's *Stig of the Dump*, to Polly Ho-Yens *The boy in the Tower*. (An ideal Christmas present if your child wants their own class copy).

We will be following our Spelling scheme where children will be taught spelling patterns and rules, they will have weekly spellings, to learn at home, which will be applied through regular activities in class and in our spelling logs.

Please help your child by:

- Encouraging your child to read from a wide range of materials, both independently and to an adult for at least 10 minutes each day and sign their diary.
- Reminding them to record their reading in their diary.
- Discussing their reading to ensure understanding.
- Encouraging them to write for pleasure e.g. stories, diaries, letters, e-mails, get them to check these through for correct punctuation being used.
- Practising their spellings with them.



In Maths we will be continuing to cover all areas of the Maths curriculum. It is important that the children practise their tables at home. Please help your child by:

- Encouraging them to **practise their tables** and the corresponding division facts. Year 5 and 6 children should know all the tables.
- Taking opportunities to use and apply maths in everyday situations e.g. cooking, shopping, and telling the time.
- Supporting and encouraging them with any homework.

SATs Preparation for Year 6 only

A major part of our work for Year 6 during this term is SAT preparation. Children are being given guidance and practise with example questions and are being shown how to make the most of their knowledge and skills in an exam situation.

Teachers at Amblecote are very aware that this can be a difficult time for the children and so SAT preparation is done in a supportive and caring atmosphere.

Dates for you diary

Year 6 Astley Burf residential - Meeting to be arranged

Year 6 Astley Burf residential - w/c 29th April 2019

Year 6 SAT's meeting for parents - 16th January 2019 - 3.30pm & 6pm

Year 6 End of Key Stage Assessment (formerly known as SATs) Week beginning 13th May 2019

Homework

Children record formal homework in their homework diaries and we would ask that parents check these regularly. This work is often in the form of completing and consolidating work that has been started in class. Teachers will comment in diaries as and when necessary and parents are encouraged to do the same.

Homework will be set as follows:

Literacy — Friday to be returned the following Wednesday.

Spelling - Tuesday to be returned the following Tuesday.

Maths — Friday to be returned the following Wednesday.

In addition to formally set homework pupils in Years 5/6 are expected to:

- Read their own choice of book every day.
- Revise and learn work covered in Maths, Literacy and Science.

If you have any questions or concerns please come in and see one of us.

Thank you for your continued support

Mrs Pickett, Mrs Foster, Mrs Barratt and Mrs Brannon.



Year 5&6
Spring Term 2019
Prehistoric Britain
Stone Age to Iron Age

We hope that our overview of this term's topic will provide you with ideas of how to help your child at home.