

Physical Education (P.E.)

This ½ term sees the return of the South Coast Sports coach to Woodpecker class and sessions will take place outside on a Tuesday afternoon. We are using this term to improve our cricket skills. The second PE session will be indoors and will be a dance focused unit linked to water. The children will be working individually and in pairs to create dance sequences and perform for each other to a variety of music genres. Later in the second half term, the children will work on their athletics skills and catching and fielding team sports.

Please can you help the children to remember to bring their full PE kits into school at the start of the week, with the weather improving all the time and sports day soon to be upon us, we may add or change days. This is much easier to do if kits remain in school.

Computing

As part of their research into our comparison location on the Pacific Ocean, the children will be using internet search engines and Google Maps to gather information about the contrasting locations. They will have instruction on how to use the internet safely and how to use search engines effectively and productively. They will also use digital technology to aid their fieldwork on their beach trip.

Our unit "We are Pollsters" remains outstanding from last half term as we were unable to complete it. Towards the end of the first half term, by which time the children will have gained a good understanding and awareness of our contrasting Pacific location, the children will create online polls designed to gauge each other's opinion on coasts. We will leave the content to the children's decision, but it may concern opinions on pollution, good beach environment or preference over our contrasting coasts, etc. The children will then invite others to complete the surveys and afterwards analyse the data and findings.

WOODPECKER CLASS



CURRICULUM OUTLINE

1st HALF SUMMER TERM 2017

TERM DATES:	24 th April – 21 st July
HALF TERM:	29 th May – 2 nd June
INSET DAYS	24 th & 25 th July

What's Washed Up?

This term we are looking at our coast line and comparing it with a coast line on the Pacific Ocean. Using links we have with a marine biologist in Monterey bay (yes that is the one from finding Dorey!), the children will compare the geographical features of each area, the flora and fauna and the human effect in terms of pollution and conservation.

In the second half term, we will be engaging in a whole school topic on forests. More on this nearer the time but you can expect lots of focus on plants, animals and forest habitats.

As before, homework will be set and sent out on a Friday and should be returned to school by the following Thursday.

Spellings will also be recorded in their homework books so children can learn them at home. Spelling tests take place on a Friday and times tables tests on a Monday.

Please help your child to remember to put their book in the book box, or their home work will not be stuck in!
Thank you.

English

Our learning in English will begin with a review of the work we have done on sentence construction.

We will use the context of our trip to Clymping beach to enable the children to write explanatory texts, descriptions and recounts. They will use their art project to form the basis of their instructional writing, and the research about the pollution in the Pacific Ocean to create a piece of persuasive writing of their own choice at the end of the term which will be their end of year assessment piece.

Our reading challenge continues with 'Spotlight on Reading'. Every read your child records in their reading journal, that they have got signed by an adult, will count towards a bronze, silver or gold award. Please encourage them to read as much as possible at home, it makes a huge difference!

Maths

Maths this term will see us continue our work on number and place value and how our understanding of this helps with the four operations. We will look again at the written strategies used for each of these operations and use apparatus to support our understanding. Once these methods have been mastered there will be a greater focus on the children reasoning and explaining their understanding and how the mathematical skills can be applied in investigations and real life problems.

We will also work on our understanding of space and shape, looking at the properties of different shapes, position and direction and angles.

Science

Our Science this first half term will initially go hand-in-hand with our geography focus, exploring the fauna and flora of our two contrasting coastal locations. We will be looking at local plants and animals in both sites, grouping and sorting them using classification keys and will make simple food chains. We will consider the implication of pollution and conservation in both areas and how these can have an impact on the local environment.

Towards the end of the half term we will begin an intensive unit on the water cycle in relation to our coastal study. We will be focusing in particular on the role played by evaporation and condensation in the cycle and how the rate of evaporation affects temperature.

Art and Design

Art will see the children using items they have found on their beach trip to create a recycled piece of beach art. We are hoping that local Clymping artist Karen Baird will be able to come in and talk to the children about her work and provide them with inspiration for their own pieces.

Modern Foreign Language (MFL)

As it is a very short half term (and we lost some languages time to GLO last term) we will continue with our French vocabulary work for this term and into the next half term. We aim to learn about pets and common food types as well as revising numbers, colours, days of the week and family members.

Religious Education (R.E.)

The RE topic this term will run over the two ½ terms and will see the children answering the question 'when Jesus left what was the impact of Pentecost?'

We will be following the schemes from the new Understanding Christianity resources published by West Sussex.