



Year 3 Curriculum Newsletter

Reading

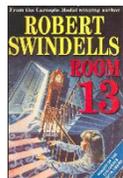
This term we will continue to use our skills of vocabulary, retrieval and inference that we have developed throughout Year 3.

VIPER Character Focus



Our VIPER reading focus for this term will be explanation. We will investigate the author's choice of language and the impact that this has upon the reader.

Class Reader



Room 13 by Robert Swindells

Author Focus

Dick King-Smith

How you can support at home?

Please read regularly at home with your child. Discuss the meanings of sophisticated language you come across in the text. Ask children to read around the text to clarify the meaning of unfamiliar words.

Writing

During the first half of this term, our writing will be focused around Dracula. The children will be creating a setting description about Whitby Abbey using various visuals as a stimulus support. Through exploring various texts, the children will identify and discuss the writing techniques authors adopt to build suspense and apply these skills to create their own suspense narratives. They will also discuss the authors' choice of language and use the knowledge gained to create effective character descriptions for Dracula.

Within the second half of this term, the children will use the text 'Poor Tom and the Smugglers of Mourne' as inspiration for their writing. We will be discussing how setting descriptions can set a mood and tone for the reader dependent on the vocabulary and punctuation choices. Through our reading, we will explore the characteristics of the different characters and will use this when writing our own version of the story from Tom or Nancy's point of view. We will describe the events and the characters feelings trying to change the sympathies of the reader.

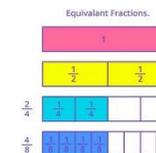
Finally, the children will go back in time writing the diary of Captain Cook.



Mathematics

During the first half of this term, the children will be developing their knowledge of fractions. They will build on their prior understanding of equivalent fractions and use various concrete materials to support them to understand how to add and subtract fractions. From this, the children will then be answering reasoning and word problems relating to fractions.

We will then be moving on to geometry, focusing on the properties of shapes. The children will draw 2-D shapes and make 3-D shapes using modelling materials. They will recognise angles as a property of shape or a description of a turn. The children will also explore right angles and identify whether angles are greater than or less than a right angle. They will identify horizontal and vertical lines in shapes and pairs of perpendicular and parallel.



Vocabulary

Fraction, numerator, denominator, equivalent, unit fraction, non-unit fraction, parallel, perpendicular, horizontal, vertical, acute angle, obtuse angle, right angle, regular and irregular shapes



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Creative Curriculum

Our topic this term is called 'Whitby the land of voyages and vampires'. Within our History lessons, we will be explore the changes to Whitby from an old fishing village into a thriving tourist destination as well as understanding the importance of Dracula and Whitby Abbey. The children will use a variety of sources to find out about the life of the famous voyager Captain Cook and his voyage on the Endeavour. They will also investigate the conditions on board a ship at this time. In Geography, the children will locate Whitby on a UK map and identify human and physical characteristics and land-use patterns. They will develop their understanding of Ordnance Survey maps and discuss the geographical similarities and differences between Castleford and Whitby. During Religious Education, the children will discuss the reasons why people pray as well as why the Bible is so important to Christians. Within Art and Design, the children will investigate the work of famous painter and sculptor McKenzie Thorpe. The children will explore how his works express an entire range of human emotion, from the special bond of love and friendship, to the importance of self-reflection and individual triumphs.

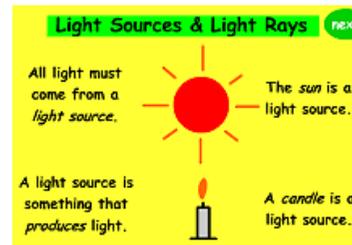


Vocabulary

Abbey, coastal, physical and human features, maps, atlases, land use, tourism, comparison, similarity, difference, symbols, key, OS map.

Science

As Scientists, the children will explore the unit of Light. The children will recognise the need for light in order to see things and the fact that dark is the absence of light. The children will notice that light is reflected from surfaces and will recognise that light from the sun can be dangerous and discuss the ways that we protect our eyes. The children will recognise that shadows are formed when the light from a light source is blocked by an opaque object and will explore patterns in the way that the size of shadows changes. The children will investigate how the positioning of a light source effects the size of a shadow.



Vocabulary

Dark, reflect, reflective, opaque, natural, light source, star, sun, natural, Moon, artificial, torch, candle, lamp, translucent, reflected, transparent, dangerous, protect, blocked, patterns, shadows

Enrichment

- A themed Whitby afternoon where children will experience traditional seaside activities.
- To visit the school allotment and plant various vegetables and plants.
- Participate in a treasure hunt map reading activity during a Forest School session linked to Mathematics and Geography.

Important Dates

- Dates TBC