Poles Apart and Commotion in the Ocean

Reception 2025-26

Curriculum Overview



Communication and Language

This term we will develop our vocabulary as we travel around the world, learning about new places people and concepts. We will continue to practice speaking in full sentences to articulate our understanding.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will be learning about how to be a good friend and what makes us unique and special. We will celebrate our differences and learn to be respectful and kind towards others. Our Jigsaw units of 'Relationships' and 'Changing Me' will support this.

Literacy

Through RWI Phonics we will continue working towards becoming fluent and confident readers. We will use our phonics knowledge to write independent sentences inspired by our topic learning and using fantastic focus texts such as 'The Pirates Are Coming', 'The Rainbow Fish', 'Poles Apart' and 'Elmer'.

RE

Our Christian Value for this term is 'Hope and Humility' and our Character Education Trait is 'Empathy'. In our RE lessons we will learn why the word 'God' is important to Christians, and what different religions believe about our wonderful world.

Physical Development

In PE we will learn some basic team games, alongside practising for our first ever Sports Day!

Mathematics

This term in Maths we will learn about numbers to 20 and beyond alongside strengthening our understanding of numbers to 10. We will focus on the composition of numbers to 10 including addition and subtraction facts.

Understanding the World

We will be going on a journey around the world this term, from learning about pirates from the past to fascinating sea creature facts and experimenting with floating and sinking. Following this we will compare different habitats and countries around the world and learn how to look after our planet.

Expressive Arts and Design

We will use have lots of fun in Art and Music this term, including designing and building 3D pirate ships, creating artwork from plastic waste and making a giant, colourful Elmer!

Key Topic Vocabulary

- pirate
- mast
- anchor
- rudder
- cutlass
- crow's nest
- telescope
- map
- compass
- island
- volcano
- flag
- Jolly Roger
- bandana
- eye-patch
- sails
- hook
- cannons
- battle
- ship
- pole
- Antarctica
- Arctic
- blubber
- predator
- adapt
- environment
- climate
- habitat
- continent
- equator
- comparison
- similarity
- fierce
- camouflage
- rainbow
- rainforest
- hope
- thankfulness
- humility
- observe
- sort
- similarities
- differences
- grouping
- materials
- test
- predict
- experiment
- conclusion