

Sedlescombe Church of England Primary School

Topic Overview Year 4 - Terms 3 & 4

Africa!



Where would you go and why?

TRIPS AND EVENTS

- African tour: WOW Afternoon
- Easter Service
- African cooking
- African themed day, including dance and music

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Term 3: We will be investigating the enquiry question: 'How can a synagogue help us to understand the Jewish faith?' Children will be looking at visuals of a synagogue and researching the key features and their symbolism.

Term 4: In RE, we will be investigating the enquiry question: Why do Christians call the day Jesus died Good Friday? Children will be thinking about this question and take part in our Easter Service.

PERSONAL, SOCIAL, HEALTH & ECONOMIC EDUCATION

In PSHE, children will be taking part in activities to think about dreams and goals. We will at how we can motivate ourselves when we are being challenged, how we can work well with a partner or in a group and the benefits of this and how we can help each other as well as ourselves to achieve our dreams and goals. We will achieve this through practical activities, such as games, as well as written and drawn.

P.E. LESSONS

- The children need to have their PE kit in school every day, but it should be taken home every couple of weeks so that it can be kept clean for lessons.
- Jewellery **MUST** be removed, so if your child has pierced ears they will need a small pot to put their earrings in to keep them safe.
- Long hair should be tied back for school, but **MUST** be tied back for P.E. Lessons so a spare hair band is useful.

THE BIG IDEA

Our main class project this term is called, 'Africa!' and the focus of this topic is on developing our understanding of different cultures in different countries and how we can work together, even though we are different. Most subjects are linked to this topic. The subjects that are closely linked are PSHE, Geography, Art and English. This project will run up until the Easter break and the children will have plenty of creative learning experiences across many different subjects.

The children will begin their topic with an African tour afternoon at school where they will explore all over Africa, finding out about the diversity of the continent.

In Science we will be finding out about electricity and sound

- The children will learn about appliances that work using electricity
- The children will make circuits and understand how they work
- The children will learn about different switches and their functions
- As well as this, the children will be learning how sound travels in waves
- They will learn how something can be sound proof
- They will also think about music and that to hear music we need to recognise the different vibrations through the medium of the ear

In Geography the children will be learning to:

- Locate the world's countries with a focus on Africa
- Study the physical geography of Africa including climate zones, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes
- Study the human geography of Africa including settlement and land-use, trade links and the distribution of natural resources

In Art/DT we will be finding out about: Sketching, Painting, & using different mark making materials

- Studying, designing and making tribal masks (Term 3)
- Studying and designing African patterns to create their own African outfit (Term 4)

In Music:

- The children will continue to learn the recorder

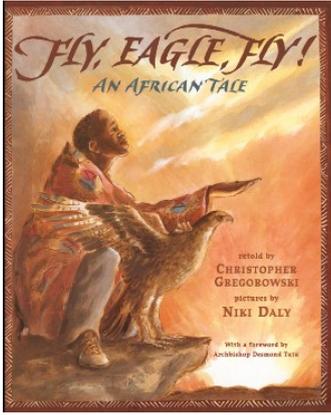
In PE we will be learning:

- The key skills in netball such as pivoting, passing, defending and shooting.
- How to link and sequence moves to create a Mission Survive dance routine!
- To develop strength, flexibility, technique, control and balance through gymnastics
- How to do circuit training and its health benefits

In Computing the children will be learning to:

- Use the internet to research different countries within Africa
- Understand the variety of uses that the internet has and how to stay safe online.

ENGLISH



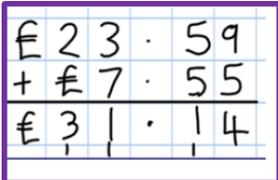
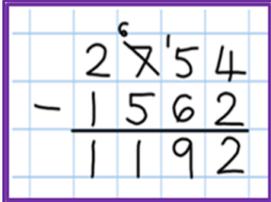
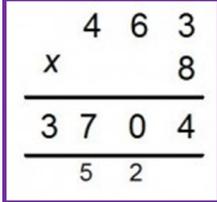
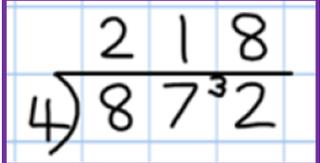
In English the children will be reading, discussing and analysing our new class book called, 'Fly, Eagle, Fly! An African Tale' by Christopher Gregorowski. The story is about when a baby eagle is blown from its nest and a farmer raises it as a chicken. Will the eagle be forever limited to life in a farmyard or will it learn to follow its destiny in the skies?

The children will be taking part in different speaking, listening, reading and writing opportunities as well as drama and art activities. This book links well to our topic as it shows the diversity of an African culture and how working alongside someone else will help to achieve your goals and dreams. The children will be writing in a range of genres including instructions, poetry, letters, e-mails and no-fiction reports.

MATHS

- Four operations: In maths we will be practising efficient, written methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division (see examples below).
- Fractions: Children will be reading and writing fractions, finding fractions of quantities and numbers, adding and subtracting fractions and more.
- Data handling: Children will be creating different charts and graphs and answering questions about them.

CALCULATION METHODS

ADDITION	SUBTRACTION	MULTIPLICATION	DIVISION
Column addition of whole numbers and decimal numbers	Column subtraction method using exchanging	Short multiplication method using carrying	Short division method
			

CLASS ROUTINES:

HOMEWORK:

Children's home learning will be handed out on a Friday afternoon and it should be handed back in on the following Wednesday. Home learning is alternated weekly:

- Week 1: Maths CGP Book & Spellings
- Week 2: Reading CGP Book & Times tables

I have found the greatest support that parents/carers can do at home is: Reading collaboratively (15 minutes minimum per day), times tables practise and individual spelling booklet practise.

Children will also have the chance to play home learning monopoly if they hand their home learning in on time and read 4 times a week (signed by an adult in their reading record).

COMMUNICATION:

- Please encourage your children to speak to me if they should have any concerns. I will be available at the end of school if you wish to speak to me directly.
- In the morning Mrs Harvey or another member of the Senior Leadership Team is available on the school gate if you have a message that you would like to have passed on to me.
- If there is a matter that you need to discuss with me in more detail please make an appointment to discuss this with me. This can be done by speaking to me at the end of the day to make an appointment or by speaking to Mrs Hardes in the School Office.