



# St Faith's C.E. Primary School

**Class:** Willow Year 4

**Teaching team:** Miss Whiteman, Mrs Choules, Mrs Buchanan, Mrs Johnson, Mr Walker, Mrs Harding, Mrs Brannigan and Mrs Maundrell

**Curriculum News — Autumn 2016    Topic: Volcanoes & the UK**

## English

**Spelling focus:** topic words, Year 4 words and patterns of prefixes and suffixes.

**Grammar focus:** Revise parts of a sentence: noun, verb and adjective. Improve sentences by adding adjectives, adverbs and powerful verbs. Use a range of conjunction (eg when, if, because) in all writing. Use the ed-ing-ly strategy to start sentences in a variety of ways and use the present and past tenses confidently.

**Reading:** A range of poetry, especially school poems. Information books related to the topic. Year 4 text: The Boy Who Swam with Piranhas.

**Writing Genre:** Performance Poetry – Sharing, learning and writing poetry, especially school poems based on Please Mrs Butler by Allan Ahlberg.

Information – Writing linked to activities on the Minstead Residential Trip, especially biodiversity and environmental issues.

Fiction – Book study of The Boy Who Swam with Piranhas – exploring issues and dilemmas.

**Poetry recital competition** – Week 1

## Science

**Living things and their Habitats** Ideas to explore will be: living things can be grouped in different ways according to their characteristics including the use of classification keys to identify a variety of living things in their own environment and the creation of such keys themselves. The children will recognise that change (environmental, seasonal and human action) can affect organisms and habitats differently.

### **Animals including Humans**

Food chains will be constructed identifying producers, predators and prey with an understanding that these may alter depending on the habitat of the animals and that adaptation also plays a part. They will learn about the different types of teeth, and understand the basic parts of the digestive system in humans.

## Suggestions to support learning at home

- Keep the daily spelling routine going, completing 4 activities a week.
- Read with your child often so they can practice their fluency and expression.
- Keep practising times tables
- Help your child to tell the time on analogue and digital clocks.

## Events

- Minstead residential – 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> Sept
- Volcano topic outcome - date tbc

## Maths

Learning **all** times tables and division facts. Developing sense of place value in 4-digit numbers.

Order and compare numbers. Round numbers to the nearest 10, 100 or 1000. Use mental methods to solve problems.

Using written methods for the 4 rules of number to answer a range of problems, including money.

Estimating, measuring and comparing length and capacity.

Decimal fractions: counting in tenths and hundredths, using hundredths in relation to money and dividing a one or two digit number by 10 and 100 to create a decimal number.

Interpreting and presenting data in a variety of ways.

Exploring the properties of shapes.

## Foundation subjects

### **Geography: Topic – Volcanoes**

- Investigating how volcanoes are formed, how and why they erupt and what the effects are
- Researching famous volcanoes around the world and their eruptions

### **Geography: Topic – UK**

- Investigating which countries make up the UK and the location of key cities.
- Learning about neighbouring counties and the different landscapes within the UK
- Comparing human and physical landmarks and icons of Great Britain

**Art:** Clay sculpture in the style of Henry Moore

**DT:** Sewing skills and cross stitch

**RE:** Stewardship, Signs and Symbols, The Son of God

**PSHE:** New beginnings, Making friends, Talking School

**ICT:** Communicating information, Multimedia and the Internet to research topic work, Scratch

**PE:** Travelling in gymnastics, Dance

**Games:** Ball skills and ball games

**Music:** Listen2Me

**French:** Self and Family, Numbers and Shapes, Colours, Weather, French culture and Transport

## Messages

- Please bring in a labelled art overall
- Willow PE/Games is on Mondays and Wednesdays
- Spellings are handed out on Monday and tested on Fridays. The yellow spelling homework book lists different activities to complete each evening at home.
- Reading record checked weekly - minimum of 3 adult signatures per week
- Homework due back in on a Thursday
- Unfortunately, cakes and sweets are no longer allowed on birthdays.
- Any parental offers of help will be gratefully received