

We hope that you enjoyed the summer and that your child is settling happily into Upper Key Stage 2.

This term we are all looking forward to the residential visits around which much of our work will be centred.

The main focus of this term's topic will be on geography although it will include significant elements of science, computing and art. Throughout, there will be opportunities for a variety of language, mathematical, artistic and technological activities.

Through our residential visit and classroom activities children will be able to compare the work of the river and the sea in terms of erosion and deposition. By looking at the patterns of settlement and development in Shrewsbury and along the coast at Barmouth and noting restrictions to their growth and transport routes we will find out about settlements. We will compare the local area to a distant part of the U.K. in terms of landscape features, occupations and the relationship between land use, buildings and human activities. We will locate key features in the U.K. and the world. The topic will involve the development of geographical skills with children actively involved in field work at Fairbourne and mapping the shops in the Shrewsbury Centre. Children will also use maps and aerial photographs to locate specific places, and will construct maps to illustrate field work and walks using keys and to a lesser extent, scale.

We will study life on the beach and investigate how species adapt to their conditions and help each other. Children should find much to think about when we explore the forces involved in floating and sinking. We will also consider the forces of pushing and pulling and the factors involved in swinging a pendulum. Some activities will involve children in testing their own ideas while others we will discuss in class.

The computer will be used for word processing using identification keys and in designing a brochure for Fairbourne. We will use a database to record and interrogate the results of a survey of tourists in Shrewsbury and Barmouth. After half term we will learn more about coding. This half term in literacy we will be concentrating on poetry, persuasion, explanation and stories. After half term we will study 'There's a boy in the Girls' Bathroom' by Louis Sachar.

This term games for the Upper KS2 will be on Tuesday afternoons led by Mr. Edwards with Mr Brown supporting. Please remind children that they need their outdoor kit on a Tuesday. During this afternoon, the children will also be taught French and PSHCE by Madame Saunders and the pastoral support team respectively. Class teachers will inform your child when they need to bring their indoor kit for P.E.

All Upper Key Stage 2 children will have a homework book containing spellings to be learned and other tasks to be completed. Please check with your child and offer them your support. Children can be expected to be tested most weeks, test days will vary according to class - check with your child. Please remember that reading with your child and taking an interest in their books is still important

Wishing you all a happy and fulfilling term,

Janine Walker

Tom Jones

Karen Hopewell