

## English

The first theme we are focusing on this year is descriptive writing as we focus on how to engage our reader through our writing about the setting and characters. We will ground this in our class novel, 'Orphans of the Tide', and will focus hugely on developing the sentence structures used in our work.

We will then develop our knowledge of explanation texts as we use our history work to write an explanation of the causes and effects of the slave trade. As part of this, we will focus on the accurate use of punctuation to separate sentences and organise our text.

## Science

**Year 5:** Our key question will focus on whether all changes to materials are reversible as we explore solubility, evaporation, burning and separation. We look forward to applying our investigative skills here too.

**Year 6:** We will begin our science learning this year by considering how we stay alive and stay healthy. We will learn about the structure and purpose of the heart, the importance of blood and the ways we can maintain a healthy lifestyle.

## Religious and Worldviews Education

We begin our year with a focus on creation as we answer the question of whether humans should be custodians of creation. We will begin by revising the Christian concept of creation before then comparing this to Islamic beliefs and how Muslims believe that humans are made in the image of Allah and how they believe everyone should look after the world.

## French

Year 5 will continue to focus on developing their speaking, listening, reading and writing whilst Year 6 will also make links with our French penfriends and learn about similarities and differences in French and English culture.

## Computing

We will begin our learning with a focus on computer systems and networks as we learn more about how data is transferred, including through the internet, and how we use search engines and web crawlers to navigate the internet.

# Owl Class Newsletter



## Additional information

Welcome to Owls!!

Please don't forget that PE kits should be in school every day and the children should always bring a waterproof coat so they can still be outside when raining. Our forest school sessions also start on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September and run until half term.

Any questions, do not hesitate to contact us via [owl@trentyoungs.dsat.org.uk](mailto:owl@trentyoungs.dsat.org.uk)

## Reading

Our first class novel this year will be Orphans of the Tide by Struan Murray, which we will enjoy reading together across the term. In our guided reading sessions, we look forward to exploring David Olusoga's book, Black and British: a short, essential history.



## History

This half term, we will be exploring the issues faced by Black Britons over the last 2000 years. This will take us from Roman soldiers in 200 AD, to Henry VIII's black minstrel, into WWI and WWII as we explore the roles that black soldiers played in these conflicts before we follow the journey of Windrush immigrants through to the present day and the issues still faced today.

## Art

Our first area of focus this year is on maps and typography as we explore fonts, alphabets and then apply this to create our own 3d maps that represent ourselves.

## Design Technology

Our focus will be upon textiles as we create stuffed toys. We will consider how to use different stitches, including blanket stitch, before adding appliqués to our work.

## Physical Education

Our first PE unit of the year will be football as we explore how to control the ball in different ways, before focusing on tactical skills such as attacking and defending, and how we can work well as part of a team.

Our other sessions will be forest school in the woods!

## Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)

Owls will be exploring 'me and my relationships' as they explore assertiveness, negotiation and compromise, bystander behaviour and inappropriate/ illegal touch.

## Music

Film music will be our focus as we explore how music plays a role in telling a story. As part of this, we will learn more about major and minor key signatures and revisit our previous work on graphic scores.

## Maths

**Year 5:** We will begin with a focus on place value as we explore numbers up to 1, 000, 000 through comparing, ordering and rounding. Our attention will then turn to the four operations as we ensure that we can add and subtract accurately, before focusing on the properties of number, including factors, multiples and prime numbers.

**Year 6:** We will begin the year by focusing on the place value of numbers up to 10, 000, 000 through rounding, comparing and ordering. This will also allow us to explore the whole number system, including negative numbers. We will then look to build accuracy in the four operations, including through learning how to use long division and how to apply the rules around the order of operations to calculations with mixed operations.