



Topic Learning Letter

Year Two – Autumn Term

Topic	Our topics this term are <i>Amazing Animals</i> and <i>The Lighthouse Keeper's Daughter</i> .
Launch and Land	We are launching our <i>Amazing Animals</i> topic by designing, making and sharing an 'Adapted Animals' nature reserve. We will be designing and making our own invented animals and create the environments that we think that they should they live in. Our land will be a trip to Colchester Zoo, where we will be focusing on the animals that we might find in the continents of Africa and Antarctica. <i>The Lighthouse Keeper's Daughter</i> will be launched with us being history detectives and using clues to understand what happened on the night of a famous sea rescue. We will then be landing our topic by making a moving picture using levers and sliders.
Trips / Visitors	We are excited to be visiting Colchester Zoo in October, details will be sent nearer the time.
Science	In science, we will be investigating living things and their habitats. We will be learning about living things, non-living things and things that have never been alive. We explore different animals and the habitats that they live in, look at how animals are suited to their environment and explore food chains.
History/Geography	We will be learning about Antarctica and a contrasting locality, the Sahara Desert. We will be exploring similarities and differences and linking this to our science topic on habitats and the animals that live in these habitats. We will be learning about some famous people from history who have explored the world. We will learn about Robert Falcon Scott and his team's voyage to Antarctica and why he is a significant person in History. We will also be learning about Grace Darling and her exciting sea rescue adventure.
Design and Technology / Art and Design	Inspired by our hot and cold environments, we will be studying the work of Alma Woodsey Thomas. We will be learning about mixing colours and making our own paintings inspired by her. We will also be designing and making Christmas decorations in art and creating a moving picture using sliders and levers in design technology.
Music	We will be learning songs about animals that live in Africa and learning 'Celebration Songs' for different festivals.
PSHE	Our whole school focus in PSHE is The Zones of Regulation, this is a curriculum geared towards helping children gain skills in consciously regulating their actions, which in turn leads to increased control and problem-solving abilities. In the second half of term, we will be celebrating difference.
RE	This term we will be exploring and learning about why light an important symbol for Christians, Jews and Hindus and what the nativity story teaches Christians about Jesus.
Reminders	Year 2 have PE every Friday afternoon during the first half term so please make sure they come to school in a kit suitable for the weather. In the first autumn half term, we have swimming on a Wednesday . Please ensure your child is wearing their swimming costume under their PE kit on these days. Please also remember a swimming hat and goggles. Please remember to bring your reading book in every day. There are always opportunities to read with your child!

If you have any questions or concerns at all, please talk to one of the Year Two Team.