

Gatten and Lake Primary School Curriculum News

Year 3 Spring 1 - 'The Iron Man'

Over the forthcoming half term,



The children's English work will be based around the story of the Iron Man during this half term we will be using this famous story to investigate report writing and how dramatic events are captured and reported. The children will try their hand at reporting the sudden appearance of the

Iron Man on the cliffs of the Isle of Wight...the children will also develop English skills through recounts of visits and activities and formal letter writing through investigating a local issue. In maths, the children will develop their understanding of fractions, beginning to calculate simple fractions of objects and recognising the concept of equivalent fractions. They will also develop multiplication and division strategies through practice and problem solving and investigate properties of 2D and 3D shapes.

During our afternoon sessions the children will be covering:

- In Science, the children will carry out further investigations of forces and magnetism
- In Geography, the children will be looking at mapping and map symbols and using maps to study land use now and in the past.
- In PSHE, the children will be focussing on the theme of 'It's Good to be me', considering the things that make each of us unique and special.
- In Art, the children will make Roman shields from their own designs and examine line, tone and texture in drawing skills.
- In DT, the children will link the work completed in science on forces to design effective helicopter spinners.
- In RE, the children will be learning about resurrection and describe how Christians use the Paschal Candle in a ritual to remember the resurrection of Jesus
- Our PE units for this half term are: ball skills and attack and defence in games and country dance in preparation for a festival in the summer.

Please note that PE sessions are on TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS so please ensure your child has a full PE kit in school every day but especially on these days. Thank you.

At home your child could:

- Look at maps and map symbols and how we use them. Look for symbols and logos out and about.
- Look at newspapers (and TV news) and talk about the way it informs us.

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Year 3- What we did last half term in Spring Part 1

The first half of the Spring term focussed on the Romans, Pompeii and the destructive power of volcanoes...

In **English**, we studied *Escape from Pompeii* by Christina Balit, a beautiful and moving story of the famous eruption. We used this story as inspiration to develop descriptive language to describe the eruption of a volcano and its effects. Following the entertaining *Sleeping Beauty* show, the children compared each character's journey in the fairy tale and then produced diaries as one of the characters in the story.



In **Maths** lessons, the children have focussed on extending number and place value knowledge and



broadening their strategies for solving addition and subtraction problems. They have worked particularly on explaining and showing their strategies (reasoning) and applying their skills to solving problems.

In RE, the children studied the Hindu festival of Holi, whilst in PE, they have created movement sequences featuring different jumps, balances and ways of travelling and developed skipping skills individually and in teams.

In Science, the children considered the nature and effects of forces, particularly related to magnetism. They were able to experience the force of an magnetic field, investigate what happens when the different poles of magnets are put together (attraction and repulsion) and consider how to measure the strengths of different magnets.

Since January the children have also enjoyed taking part in our new daily physical exercise. Between 10-15 minutes a day is now spent on either skipping, an on-line workout or taking part in a-mile-a-day. The children have shown great enthusiasm for these sessions.



The children have responded very well to a change of teacher and together we are working very hard and focussing on achieving good behaviour for learning and making the most of our lessons and learning time.

