

TWYFORD ST MARY'S C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Yew Class Weekly Newsletter

Week beginning: 20th January 2025

Our topic is: 'Out of Africa'

Well done to Year 6s for all your hard work completing the Bikeability Course. The instructors were impressed with your enthusiasm and your development over the two days. Year 5 and 6s who remained in class, were also very hardworking in their approach to enrichment tasks in English and Maths.

The children wrote diary entries from the character in our text's, point of view and I was impressed with the high standard of the work. This week we work on our persuasive language skills leading up to writing Time Traveller's guides to Benin which you will be able to view during our parent sharing event on the 13th February.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Aitken

Our Curriculum this week:

Core Subjects

In English, the children will be working on their persuasive language skills. They will also be researching a different aspect of Benin in readiness for writing our persuasive leaflets.

In Reading, the children are distinguishing between facts and opinions within travel adverts and discussing why a reader should know the difference between a fact and an opinion.

In Spelling, Mrs Newell's group will be doing challenge words that don't follow a common spelling pattern and my group is looking at words that end in 'able' and 'ible'.

In Maths, the Year 6s are doing work on scale factor and the Year 5's are working on multiplying two digit numbers by 2 digit numbers as they solve areas of rectangles.

In Science, the children are investigating classification of animals.



'The Children of the Benin Kingdom' Dinah Orji

Foundation Subjects

This week, in History, the children are going to complete an enquiry on one of the Benin Bronzes.

In Computing, the children will be creating a concept map and explore Story Mode on the programme.

How you can help at home...



- Log into TT Rock stars or Purple Mash to practise times tables fluency.
- Practise spellings on Ed Shed. An assignment has been set and children can also go on the Mastery Zone, once that area is unlocked. The words are selected in response to a recently completed spelling diagnostic assessment.

Stage 3—Challenge Words



learn
regular
minute
centre
disappear
decide
notice
heart
therefore
early

Stage 5—Words ending in 'ible' and 'able'



reliable
possible
terrible
reasonable
enjoyable
comfortable
dependable
understandable
horrible
incredible

Complete at least 3 of the home learning tasks this half term.

Research an animal that has adapted for its habitat. Draw the animal and annotate the adaptations.

Make a poster or leaflet about the variation in your family. You could include information about: - Eye colour - Ear lobes - Widow's peak - Double jointed or not - Hair colour etc. Who are you more similar or different to, in your family?

In Benin, music and song entertained the Oba in his palace. Can you create an African inspired instrument out of recycled materials? For example, you could make your own thumb piano using a box, elastic bands and plastic spoons.

The Edo people were famous for their patterned cloth and were very proud of their appearance. Can you find out about the clothing of the time and design/ make an Edo outfit OR Draw and label a picture of a man and woman wearing traditional clothes from Benin.

Reading Task: Make a comic book version of a particular part of the book you are reading.

Research a traditional West African dish and prepare it. Write the recipe, create a photo diary or bring in the finished creation!

Mask comparison. Compare the style of masks produced in Benin with masks from another culture. Draw a typical mask from each culture and annotate them.

The people of Benin believed in many different gods, each of them in charge of a different aspect of life and each had their own symbol to identify them by. For example, crocodiles were associated with Olokun, god of the water. Can you create your own Benin inspired God? What would they be called? What would they be in control of? What would their symbol be?

Create a poster (or a spinner) for 'Les saisons' (the seasons) using the French words for the seasons.