

St Andrew's C of E Primary School  
Otter Class  
Curriculum Newsletter – Autumn 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Otter Class! Here is an outline of what we are going to be learning in school during this term. Our work will be focused around our whole school topic titled...

- MAPS

**English**

During this topic our written work will include a range of fiction, non-fiction and poetry. As the topic is focused around Geography we are starting with comparing the UK with Africa. We have started reading stories from other cultures and those that involve African animals such as The Tiger who came to Tea and Handa's Surprise. We will be writing stories, letters and poems as well as descriptions when we compare Kenya in Africa to our locality.

Phonics is a very important part of English; this will be practised every day to develop our knowledge of sounds, reading and spelling of high frequency words and tricky words all in line with the Letters and Sounds programme. This will be delivered at the appropriate level for your child.

There will be weekly handwriting lessons to develop pencil control, the correct letter formations and joined handwriting.

**PSHE** The children have created new classroom agreements to ensure a positive environment for learning. We will also be looking at becoming confident, respectful and caring learners.

**Art** In Art we will be developing our creative skills. We shall be looking at African patterns and exploring African sunsets and silhouettes. We shall be working with a range of media to create African artefacts.

**Maths** This term the children will work on number and place value, addition and subtraction, properties of shapes and graphs. We will link this where possible to the topic making maths as fun and interactive as possible. Children will also have a 'Morning Maths Meeting' where they explore a number in as many ways as they can.

**RE**

In RE this term we will be looking at 'Special People', those who are special to us, those who are special to others and through stories.

**Science**

By comparing Africa with the UK we shall observe and talk about changes in the weather and seasons. The children will find out about the basic needs of animals and what humans need to stay healthy.

**MAPS**  
**(Mountains,  
Animals, People  
and Seas)**

**DT**

As part of our topic work the children shall be designing and making a fruit salad whilst discovering where in the world the different fruits come from. We will design, create and evaluate our very own African bead necklaces and create an African hut.

**Music** We will play percussion instruments in our Thursday morning music assembly. The children will be developing their voices expressively and creatively by learning new to sing new songs.

**History**

In History we will find out about why we celebrate fireworks night and why we wear poppies.

**PE**

In PE we will develop an awareness of space in the hall, travelling safely through and around apparatus, balancing and demonstrating to our peers. We will participate in team games, developing appropriate simple tactics.

**Computing** The children will be using computers and equipment in their everyday learning. This will include using bee-bots to create and debug simple programs. The new class flat-panel offers the children the opportunity for developing and practising their computer skills. They will focus on word processing including changing fonts, selecting pictures, saving and retrieving their work. Throughout the term the children will continue to learn about using technology safely.