

# Curriculum Newsletter

## Summer 1: Our Heritage

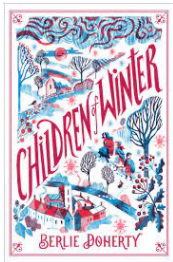
### Robins



Our topic got off to a soaring start with Mrs. Bates greeting the children at the school gates dressed as a pilot! This half term, the children will be studying 'The Wright Brothers' who were the first to build and fly an aeroplane! We will be exploring how Wilbur and Orville went from curious children, who loved learning about the world around them, to becoming world-famous inventors, aviators and businessmen! In DT, the robins will be looking at mechanisms – levers, pivots and wheel mechanisms in order to create their own plane sliding mechanism books. In Science, we will be exploring everyday materials and what materials were used to build old aircraft in comparison to the materials used today on modern aircraft. History will be focused around the Wright Brothers as well as Rolls Royce and exploring our local engineering heritage! Our core texts are 'Taking Flight' and 'Emma Jane's Aeroplane' and check out our amazing aeroplane role play corner in the hive. The children cannot wait to board 'Longford Airways' to jet off to their next destination!



### Woodpeckers



This term, our class topic is 'The Great Plague', supported by the core text 'Children of Winter'. For our immersion activity this week, the children carried out an image investigation, looking at what they knew, what they wondered and what they had learnt about each image.

In English, we will be producing a diary entry, character description and a non-chronological report about the plague.

In History, we will be focussing on The Great Plague and the local Derbyshire village of Eyam. Each week we will be exploring a difference key question. Our key topic questions this term include:

- What was London like in the time before the Great Fire of London in 1666?

- What was the plague and why was it a problem?
- What help was available?
- Did the plague spread outside of London? What happened at Eyam?
- What happened at Eyam?
- What were the plague pits and why were they necessary?

In Science, our unit of work this term is 'Plants'. Our big question which we will be exploring and answering is 'why do plants have flowers?'.

This term in Art we will be doing a combined artist study of botanical artists - Maria Sibylla Merian (illustrator), Anna Atkins (cyanotype photography) and Georgia O'Keeffe (paintings of enlarged flowers).



### Owls



This term, the class topic is Charles Darwin, supported by using the core text 'Darwin's Dragons' (our class novel) and 'Charles Darwin on the Origin of Species' (picture version). We will be focusing particularly on our science topic of 'Evolution and Inheritance' which helps look at key questions such as:

- What Can Fossils Tell Us About How Living Things Have Changed Over Time?
- How are characteristics passed from parents to their offspring?
- How are animals and plants adapted to suit their environment and how may this lead to evolution?

In English we will be writing a biography on Charles Darwin and then writing a character description and continuation of a story.

Our Art and Design lessons this half-term are focusing on Mono-printing, using a range of media, which will involve a study of the artists Brandon Ballengee and Iori Tomita.

Our Geography lessons are focusing on the Galapagos islands and will look at key questions such as:

- Where in the world is the Galapagos Islands?
- What did Darwin discover about the wildlife of the Galapagos Islands?
- How did Darwin collect plant samples and record them?

In Computing, we will be focusing on Spreadsheets, and using them to compare and graph populations.

