



Being safe, being respectful, being *our* best

## Earith Primary School: Curriculum Newsletter



**Class: Bluebell**  
**Term: Summer 1**

### English:

We will be delving into '*The Train to Impossible Places*' by P.G. Bell. We will be exploring the characters and plot as well as giving our own opinions on the many fantasy settings described in this book. We will write a postcard in role as the main character. All of this learning will lead to us writing our own narratives about a train to an impossible place!

### Maths:

In Maths, our topic will be fractions. We will be learning about unit fractions (where the numerator is 1 e.g.  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{6}$ ) and non-unit fractions (where the numerator is greater than 1 e.g.  $\frac{3}{4}$ ,  $\frac{2}{3}$ ). Year 4s will also be learning about fractions greater than one (e.g.  $1\frac{1}{2}$ ). We will continue to regularly practise arithmetic this half term.

### Science:

In our unit on 'Classification of Plants and Animals', we will be learning about the different groups that scientists use to classify animals and plants. We will be using classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environments.

### Geography:

In our unit on 'Spatial Sense', we will begin by learning about compasses; labelling the eight compass points and looking at maps to describe the location of different places in relation to our school. We will learn that ordnance survey symbols and grid references can also help us to locate places. Finally, we will use maps and photographs to compare the physical geography of London and San Francisco.

### **History:**

Towards the end of Summer 1, we will start to learn about the Stuarts. We will learn that James VI of Scotland became James I of England; this was called the 'union of crowns' and led to the first Union Jack flag. We will find out more about the life of Guy Fawkes and learn about the events leading up to the Gunpowder Plot. Then we will learn about the reign of Charles I and the start of the English Civil War. Our unit on the Stuarts will continue in Summer 2.

### **Religious Education:**

The question shaping our RE learning this half term is 'How is Christianity represented in Britain?' We will begin to explore some similarities and differences between the places and styles of worship within different denominations of Christianity (e.g. Church of England, Catholic, and Evangelical).

### **PSHE:**

In PHSE, we will be thinking about healthy and safer lifestyles. We will be looking at features which influence a healthy lifestyle, and the impact of exercise on both physical and mental health.

### **Art:**

We will be exploring the contrasts between light and dark within two famous paintings – Caravaggio's *The Road to Emmaus* by Caravaggio and Vermeer's *The Milkmaid*. We will be learning some techniques to show tone within our own acrylic paintings.

### **PE:**

OUTSIDE: We will be starting our preparation for Sports Day with a variety of track and athletic activities.

### **Music:**

In music, we will be developing our notation and timing skills. We will be looking at country and pop songs all based around the theme of kindness and friendship. We will be learning to read notes C, D, E, F, G, A, B and play them with glockenspiels and recorders.

### **Computing:**

In Computing this term, we will be learning about online and physical branch databases. We will be creating an identification tool using a branching database, which we will test by using it. We will also consider real-world applications for branching databases.

### **Foreign Language:**

Year 3s will be learning the days of the week. Year 4 will learn vocabulary relating to sports. We will also learn how to give our opinions in French.

### **Big Questions for the Half Term:**

How does Music bring us closer together?  
What is a branch database and what is their use in real life?  
Why is physical activity important for physical and mental health?  
What are the classification groups of plants and animals?  
How do artists use tone to show form and create drama?  
How can we locate places?  
How is Christianity represented in Britain?  
How did life change under the reign of different monarchs in Stuart times?

### **Big Vocabulary for the Half Term:**

Minims, Crotchets, Quavers, Key signature, Time signature, Tempo, Andante,  
Improvise, Compose  
Attribute, Branching database, Database, Separate, Value  
Healthy, Unhealthy, Factor, Physical, Choice, Nutrition, Stamina, Strength, Flexibility  
Classification, Vertebrates, Invertebrates, Internal skeleton, Amphibians, Reptiles,  
Mammals, Arachnid, Mollusc, Insects, Abdomen, Botanist, Reproduce,  
Photosynthesis  
Compass, symbols, key, grid, co-ordinates, horizontal, vertical, northings, eastings  
Tone, Chiaroscuro (Italian - means 'light-dark'), ground, underpainting, acrylic,  
highlights  
Church, worship, hymn, prayer, denomination, commandment  
Monarchy, parliament, divine

### **Other Information:**

#### **\*Teachers\***

Mrs. Barber: Monday and Tuesday  
Mrs. Thompson: Wednesday, Thursday and Friday  
Mrs. Ray: French

#### **\*TAs\***

Mrs. Thurston (Tues and Weds a.m.) and Mrs. Watson (Friday a.m.)

#### **\*PE\***

Our PE days are:  
Tuesday and Wednesday (outside kit for both).  
Swimming – please see separate letter regarding Bluebell's swimming days coming soon.

#### **\*Reminders\***

Please remember to send your child with a named cap as the weather starts to get sunnier.  
Please continue to hear your child read at home and encourage them to practice their times tables (Rockstars) and Spellings (Shed).