

# Around the world



1839 + Bures School

**Brambly  
Hedge  
Class  
Newsletter**

<p><b>Ahoy there!</b></p> <p>Join us on an adventure to learn more about our world as we sail the seas and dock not just in England but in foreign lands too! We will be referring to world maps and atlases to track our route. We will be comparing the Caribbean Island of Saint Lucia with the beaches and seashores of the UK; looking at similarities between landscape, beaches, houses and food.</p> <p>We will be exploring the hot and cold places of the world and learning about daily and seasonal weather.</p>	Topic Focus	<b>Science/ Geography</b>
	English	Recounts; Instructions; Narrative; Information Books
	Geography	Daily and seasonal weather, hot and cold places of the world, looking at world maps and atlases.
	Art and design	Marbling, painting using different affects and sculpture.
	Computing	Online safety, Using technology in useful ways. Consolidating skills
	D&T	Designing, preparing and eating food.
	Mathematics	Multiplication and division, time, addition and subtraction.
	Music	Action Rhymes, listening for pitch.
Science	Seasonal changes, Plants- name common plants and trees, name the parts of a plant and grow our own.	

## This term...

This term our topic is guided by Science and Geography themes.

### **The geography elements are as follows:**

We will be learning about the weather we typically expect to experience during each season (allowing for unusual weather eg. snow at Easter!). We will also be exploring the hot and cold places in our world, learning about the equator and the North and South Poles and why we have a temperate climate compared to Saint Lucia which has a more tropical climate.

We will be comparing the Caribbean Island of Saint Lucia with the UK and more specifically seaside places like Mersea or Frinton; comparing the beaches, landscape, houses, weather and food.

### **History:**

Next half term we will be investigating how seashores have changed over the last 100 or so years in England and what has stayed the same.

### **The science elements are as follows:**

The science theme this term is seasonal changes and plants. Throughout the year we have studied the season we are in at that time- so far, we have learnt about Autumn and Winter and this term we will be learning about the seasons of Spring and Summer as they arrive. We will talk about the weather, the changes that occur in trees and the natural world as well as any events that take place e.g. Easter and summer holidays.

In the second half term we will be kicking off with 'Science Week' a whole week dedicated to Science: experiments, investigations, asking and answering big questions and learning more about our wonderful world.

In Design Technology we will be focusing on Food. We will be learning about healthy and non-healthy foods, food groups and the importance of eating a balanced diet. Food is the fuel that keeps our body going by giving us the protein, energy, vitamins and minerals that we need to build strong bones and muscles and organs, repair ourselves when we are injured and replace cells. After considering elements of a healthy diet we will design our own food snacks, prepare and make them and finally enjoy eating them! An important part of DT is evaluating how making your product went, so we will be asking ourselves what went well and what we might change if we made it again! Hopefully our food snacks will taste good with the advantage of being healthy too!

In English we will continue to use the Success For All (SFA) approach. This helps all pupils experience success as their work is based around texts that are closely matched to their particular reading level. There are two parts to the approach—in the 'Roots' groups children work on phonics and their comprehension and writing skills whilst in the 'Wings' groups the children work on fluency, more complex comprehension skills and their writing skills. The children will be encouraged to support each other whilst also taking greater responsibility for their own learning and development. They will work in teams during SFA sessions earning points for active listening, everyone participating, completing tasks, explaining ideas and telling why and helping and encouraging each other. This encourages active engagement for all the children and helps them realise how much better learners they become when they are able to 'Think it, Say it, Teach it'.

In RE, we use the Emmanuel Project scheme of learning. The next unit is Christianity, focusing on Disciples and Faith as we explore the question 'Why do Christians trust Jesus and follow him?'.

The following half term the unit will be Judaism focusing on the Torah and Rabbi as we explore the question 'Why is the Torah such a joy for the Jewish community?'

In PE, we use 'real PE' and 'real Gym' Schemes of Work, developing children's fundamental movement skills. Our PE days are Thursday and Fridays, Thursday session is led by the wonderful Coach Scott who focusses on a range of skills and the Friday session will be taught by me and will be a mix of gymnastics, dance and the other balance and co-ordination skills.

## How you can help at home...

Sharing stories with your child allows them to hear higher level story vocabulary and interesting storylines that are beyond their reading ability, this then gives them fabulous ideas for their own writing and storytelling. It is also a lovely way to spend some time with your child.

Regular reading aloud is vital to children's vocabulary and fluency development. Therefore, we ask that you ensure your child reads at least four times a week. It is very clear to me who reads regularly at home because they make such great progress. At school your child is heard at least once a week. At this time of the year I love to remind children how far they have come in their reading ability and what a joy it is to hear them read!

The following home learning challenges have been set for this half term. We suggest that the children choose a minimum of two learning challenges per half term. We will celebrate the completion of these challenges during the term.

- Search the web or non-fiction books to find out about a famous boat or ship. Make an information book by writing down interesting facts, downloading images or making drawings. Famous ships to choose from include RMS Titanic, The Santa Maria, the Cutty Sark, or HMS Belfast.
- Design and make a boat to take part in a boat race. What materials will you use? What shape will your boat be? What name will you give it?
- Visit a maritime museum, boat show, lighthouse or harbour with your family. Take lots of pictures to show and talk about at school. Maybe you could interview a family member who has worked at sea or has been on a cruise, to find out about their experiences.
- Create a pirate puppet and write about his pirate adventures.
- Visit your local library to read and borrow story and information books about the sea. Write a film or book review about your favourite.
- Make a pirate treasure chest using a lidded box and other recycled materials. What will you keep in your treasure chest? Bring it to school to show your class and explain how you made it.
- Write a letter to Captain Longbeard to tell him what you have been up to at school and home.
- Make a map of your home and local area to show all the main features. Include physical landmarks such as beaches, hills or forests as well as human features such as shops, farms or harbours. Where would be a good place to hide treasure? Can you plot a route to find it?
- Find and learn some pirate jokes. Practise reading them at home to perform in school and make your pirate friends laugh! Aye, that be funny!
- Look at holiday brochures or travel websites and talk about holiday destinations around the world. Which seas or oceans are close to each destination? Locate them on a world map, noting their location in relation to the equator and the North and South Poles. How does the location affect the weather? Where would you most like to go?

Our PE days are Thursdays and Fridays, please send your child into school wearing jogging bottoms and trainers on these days.

Please remember that earrings should be removed on these days or covered with tape before coming to school.

Water bottles need to be filled with only **water** and taken home daily for cleaning and refilling.

If we happen to be blessed with hot sunny weather, please make sure you apply sun cream to your child before school.

Thank you for your continued support.