

## Topic

Our topic for this term is 'Benin'. This will encompass a lot both in terms of History and Geography— we will look at the countries, cities and rivers in the Africa. We will talk about how Africa is a continent and not a country whilst also linking back to previous knowledge of continents. Our book will be 'Akimbo Adventures.'

## English Fiction

Children will have the opportunity to write a persuasive leaflet, encouraging their audience to visit destinations within Africa, they will be writing an adventure narrative based on our class book 'Akimbo adventures.

English work will be linked to our topic helping the children to deepen their understanding. As a school, we feel that if they can be encouraged to write creatively it will help them to understand the characters in the story and their motivation behind the words they speak and the actions they carry out. Children will continue to develop their use of thesauruses to help extend their vocabulary.

In reading children will be developing their comprehension skills involving looking at different types of questions and what skills are required to answer them as well as entering discussion based on our class novel.

We will also have a 'spare time' reading book which the children will listen to and have the opportunity to answer questions about whilst also practicing their echo reading.

## Non-Fiction

Pupils will be studying different elements of SPAG (spelling, punctuation and grammar) which they will embed into their independent writing. The children will be developing their skills of reading for information during both reading and topic lessons.

## Learning Behaviours

To encourage our children to continue developing the right attitude towards learning there are systems in place including rewards and sanctions. We always aim to focus on praising the positive behaviour demonstrated.

Our dojo system is an effective method of promoting positive behaviour. We will be continuing to use our traffic light system to encourage 'green behaviour'. Children who display positive behaviour will remain on green. If inappropriate behaviour is shown, a warning is given. If the child does not make the right choice, their name will be moved to amber. Should the child immediately improve his/her behaviour and follow instructions given by an adult, their name is moved back up to green. Any more serious incidents will result in their name being moved straight to red. Any child who stays on green all week will result in a message sent to parents with the good news.

## Maths

During this term the children will be focussing on place value and addition/subtraction.

Each week children will have opportunity to develop their number fluency, reasoning and problem solving. They will be challenged to apply their mathematical knowledge at their own level.

They will also take part in daily times table practice sheets and once weekly will complete a 10 minute practice arithmetic/problem solving test.

## Scientific and technological understanding

This half term, pupils in Year 5 will be studying 'forces' whilst pupils in Year 4 will be studying 'forces and magnets.'

They will take part in investigations throughout both topics and will have the opportunity to develop their evaluating skills after an investigation is complete.

## Family Learning Session

At the moment these are on hold and we do appreciate your support and understanding in this matter. As the situation moves on, we will use government guidance, only inviting you to work in school with your child once it has been deemed safe to do so.

## History and Geography

Children will be studying Benin. They will be looking at the ancient kingdom of Benin and its location within Africa compared to today's map. We will compare this ancient civilisation with the previous one studied—The Mayans/Aztecs—and will be discussing the rise and fall of the civilisation. In addition, we will look at Africa today and the different countries, climates, vegetation, animals and wealth within this.

## Art and design

Again, linked to our topic, children will be using different mediums: sketching pencils, paints, water colours and clay to create artistic work with their own interpretation and creative slant. We will be creating artwork in the style of Esther Mahlangu. We will also be replicating bronze plaques made throughout the kingdom of Benin.

## PSHE

Our Jigsaw topic this half term will be: 'Being Me In My World.' This is a great topic to help the children transition into their new classes and helps them to feel comfortable with their new surroundings. It also covers things such as school council and the wider government and how this can impact on their lives.

## Religious Education

Over the year children study Christianity and one other major world faith. This half term we will be looking at Judaism and specifically focusing on 'Passover.'

## Contacting school

If you need to talk to me, please see me at the end of a school day. If you are unable to do this, you can phone the school office after 3:15pm. If I am not available, I will endeavour to ring you back at the earliest opportunity.

**\* Reminders \***

**PE**

During this term PE will be on Wednesday. Although it is recommended that the children bring their kit on Monday and take it home on Friday in case of additional sessions.

**All children must have appropriate PE kit and should not wear any jewellery including earrings.**

**School times.**

During this current time, Class 7 will begin their day at 9:00am. You are welcome to wait with your child at 9:00am when myself or another adult will come out to collect the children and take them into school.

Home time pick up is at 3:15pm. You are welcome to wait for your child.

If your child walks home alone, they can leave at 3:15pm but please ensure the school is aware of this. If you need to speak to Miss Johnson, simply wait until the other children have left.

**Homework**

Homework is given out to all children on a Friday and will need to be handed in by the following Friday. Creative homework linked to our topic will be set each half term (see separate menu).

Please can your child also read at home at least three times a week and make sure they bring their reading diary each day to school with them. Dojo's are awarded for this!

Spellings will be given out on a Friday for your child to learn ready for a test on the following Friday.

**School Contact Details**

New Pastures Primary School  
Upper School  
Doncaster Road  
Mexborough  
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S64 0LT

Tel:- (01709) 583271  
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Headteacher: Mrs P. Belnavis  
Deputy Head teacher: Mr T. Purdy

If you need to have a word with your child's teacher please arrange an appointment after school when they will be happy to discuss your questions or concerns.



**Class 7  
Year 4/5  
Curriculum Newsletter**

**Autumn 1**

**2021 - 2022**