

REDWOOD CLASS

Spring Term 2018

LITERACY

This term we will be studying the text 'Varmints' by Helen Ward. The book deals with the most overlooked threat in the world, the loss of peace and quiet. The Varmints (mysterious rabbit like creatures) come and build their city where once was grass. Before they realise what they have done, there is nothing but a huge dark city. Can someone find the time and space to stop, think and plant seeds of change? A lovely thought provoking book about the habitat where we live and our impact on it. The children will be writing their own stories and focusing on describing settings, characters and atmosphere, and including speech that helps picture the character and their personality or mood. We will continue to develop our editing skills to improve our writing by proposing changes to vocabulary, grammar and punctuation. We will continue our weekly spelling focus and cover the year 5 grammar curriculum within our English lessons.

SCIENCE

This term we will continue to use the exciting Empiribox scheme to deliver thrilling science lessons on a Friday. Our topic this term will be 'Human Health and Fitness'. For thousands of years' people all over the world from every different culture have had ideas about ways of staying healthy, eating things that are 'good for you' and exercise. We will focus on helping young people understand the importance of exercise, what an exercise routine is and what we mean by a balanced diet. Through investigations and demonstrations, the children will cover nutrition, skeletons and muscles, the digestive system in humans, the main parts of the human circulatory system, and describe the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood. We will also look at the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function.

MATHS

This term we will be focusing on 'Fantastic Fractions'. Following on from our work in year 4, we will compare and order fractions whose denominators are multiples of the same number.

The children will identify, name and write equivalent fractions of a given fraction, represented visually including tenths and hundredths, recognise mixed numbers and improper fractions and add and subtract fractions with the same denominator and denominators that are multiples of the same number. The children will also cover multiplying proper fractions and mixed numbers by whole numbers, supported by materials and diagrams. In addition, we will read and write decimal numbers as fractions (for example $0.71 = 71/100$) and solve problems involving multiplication and division, including scaling by simple fractions.

We will continue to increase our Mental Maths speed using the very popular Big Maths Beat That!