

# Autumn Year 6 – THE POWER OF WATER

Herne Junior School  
2021-2022

## Description/Theme Intent:

The children will learn about the water cycle and the features of rivers and coasts. They will develop their geographical vocabulary, sketch and label river features and research one major river of the world. They will look at the effects of rivers and coasts on the landscape. There will be a focus throughout on the impact of humans on these geographical locations including a debate on the development of the coast to be held in the chamber of the East Hampshire District Council.

## Curriculum Hook

The children will participate in a day trip to Gilbert White's Field Study Centre where they will undertake advanced fieldwork of a river system, including sketching, measuring the velocity of the river, investigating the profile of the river and identifying inhabitants of the river.

## Quality Text / Whole Class Reader:

- A selection of geographical non-fiction texts for research
- The River Story by Meredith Hooper
- Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them by JK Rowling
- Private Peaceful by Michael Morpurgo (linked with our mini theme, The Great War)



## Links to being a British and Global Citizen:

- This topic will be used as the subject for a debate regarding building of property on British Coasts, linking to British Values including the Rule of Law and Democracy.
- The children will also look at the environmental impact humans are having on rivers and oceans and think about ways that they can be better global citizens.

## Links to RRR, SMSC and HARMONY:

- The children will study the UNCRC document and use this to produce a class charter based around rights and respect.
- They will consider their own identity and recognise the importance of spirituality within this.

## Life Long Learning Skills:

- Collaborative work:** The children will work in groups at Selborne. They will also work in groups to devise a dance and compose a piece of music to go with 'The River Story'.
- Independent work:** The children will investigate one major river of the world and locate the major rivers of the UK.

## Outcome/Impact:

The children will produce a beautifully presented topic book displaying all of their work from the theme 'Rivers and Coasts'. Additionally, they will perform their dance and musical compositions to the rest of the class, the impact of which shall help to raise their confidence and develop self-esteem.

## As readers, writers and performers, we will:

- write a description of the water cycle using key vocabulary. We will also write an explanation of how meanders are formed and an argument about how the coast should be used.
- using our speaking and listening skills, we will hold a debate for the impact of additional properties to our coastline
- create our own Water Dragon, describe meeting it, writing instructions about how to capture it and how to look after it.
- through a mini narrative unit of Remembrance, we will read, reflect upon and perform war poetry; read Private Peaceful by Michael Morpurgo and discover how families were affected by war; research the life of Walter Tull and write a biography honouring his commitment to his country.

## As mathematicians, we will:

- study place-value, including: rounding; negative numbers; and read and writing numbers up to a million.
- solve addition & subtraction problems in context; long multiplication up to  $4 \times 2$ ; Long division ( $4 \times 2$ ); short division with remainders in context; mental calculations; common factors; multiples; prime numbers; problem solving; and estimation.
- study converting measures, including volume, distance and mass.
- study fractions, including: adding; simplifying; subtracting; multiplying; and converting.
- solve geometry problems, based around circles and angles.

## As scientists, we will:

- use scientific vocabulary to explain what happens when an opaque object is put in the path of a light source. Explain how light travels and enters the eye.
- investigate how the direction that light is reflected in can be predicted and the angle at which light is reflected in mirrors.
- plan an investigation to try to measure and compare how shiny given objects are.
- understand the circulatory system in the human body and describe the parts and function of the heart.
- to know the positions and functions of the major organs of the body and how they work together and to explain the function of white blood cells and platelets in the blood.
- to recognise the impact of diet, exercise and lifestyle on the way our bodies function and to demonstrate understanding of the effects of a range of factors on health.

## As geographers, we will:

- learn about the water cycle and the features of rivers and coasts. We will develop our geographical vocabulary, sketch and label river features and research one major river of the world.
- look at the effects of rivers and coasts on the landscape. The human effect on the environment will also be considered leading to a debate.
- specifically focus on plastic pollution reflecting upon current issues.

## Celebrating our local community

- Living in beautiful Hampshire, and being only 20 minutes from the sea, gives the pupils a chance celebrate the beauty of the Southdowns and visit the Selborne Hangers.