

Literacy

As the children are immersed in our Power of Reading text, Charlotte's Web, they will explore the relationship between different characters. Looking closely at the first illustration in the text alongside the dialogue used, the children will draw inferences about Fern and Mr. Arable's feelings, thoughts, actions and emotions. Each class will hold a debate, taking on the role of one of the characters to reason their actions. The children will write persuasive notes, highlighting how they feel about Wilbur and their justification for these feelings. The children will then turn the opening extract into a play script, focussing on using dialogue to move the story forwards as well as stage directions to help depict the characters' feelings.

As the children read the text, they will summarise each chapter to help establish a clear structure. They will re-tell the story for a younger reader by creating an abridged version with a focus on punctuating direct speech accurately. With their reader in mind, the children will explore the effect of features used in other spider-themed stories, such as calligrams, textures and font, which they will use in their own work.

Following this, in role as a newspaper reporter, the children will write an article to report on the finding of the words 'some pig' which were woven into Charlotte's web. The children will consider the effect of using their report as a pop-up page in their storybook.

Finally, the children will watch, in slow motion, a video of a spider building its web. They will explore words that describe the patterns and shapes of a web as well as the actions of the spider building one. The children will use this stimulus to write poetry with a focus on the patterns in words on the page.

Geography

The children will study farming patterns in the UK:

- North-West of England, Scotland and Wales (cold winters, hills and moors) → sheep and cattle
- South-West England (rich grass) → dairy cows
- South-East England and Scottish Lowlands → grain, potatoes, sugar beet
- East England → wheat, barley and vegetables.

They will consider how farming patterns have changed over time. During this theme, the children will also begin to name and locate some of the major counties of the UK.

Design Technology

Considering the popularity of a bacon sandwich, and in a bid to save Wilbur, the children will be challenged to make one which is more delicious! The children will be challenged to design a sandwich which has a low carbon footprint in which all the ingredients are locally sourced.

Mathematics

Building on their current knowledge of fractions, the children will understand that fractions greater than one can be represented as improper fractions. They will learn how to add and subtract fractions where the denominators are the same and find non-unit fractions of a quantity.

Following this, the children will be introduced to tenths and hundredths. They will recognise and write decimal equivalents for $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ before exploring the effect of dividing a one- or two- digit number by 10 and 100, identifying the value of the digits in the answer as ones, tenths and hundredths.

Religious Education

During Lent, the children will examine Jesus' time in the wilderness, consider the temptations he faced and how he resisted them. They will also explore how prayer, fasting, almsgiving and living out the Beatitudes, help us to prepare for Easter.

Throughout Holy Week, the children will be considering why they think that the people turned against Jesus. They will be looking at the events of Holy Week, creating their own parish newsletter for activities that would be occurring during this time and recreating the trial of Jesus.



Amazing Arachnids

Enrichment

The children will arrive at school one morning to find a giant spider web in which motivational words and messages have been woven. The children will visit the web in role as a news team to gather information ready to write a newspaper report!

PSHE/RHE

This half-term, the children will be thinking carefully of ways to keep themselves safe online. Through resources provided by the NSPCC, they will listen to stories told by a group of children and consider what they could have done differently as well as the actions they could have taken to keep themselves safe whilst online.

Physical Education

The children will be undertaking swimming lessons at the Littledown Centre this term. Less experienced swimmers will be supported by floatation aids – they will learn to maintain their head above water, looking particularly at the use of legs to provide momentum. Those children who are more confident in the water, will look at stroke technique – they will learn the correct way to breathe during the front crawl and backstroke. Children already swimming at a high level, will focus on swimming the range of strokes across different distances and will look in detail at the technique of breaststroke and butterfly. The overall aim by the end of the term is for all children to be able to swim 25m (one length) unaided.

Science

The children will learn about the digestive system in humans. They will describe the simple functions of the basic parts before comparing our digestive systems to those of different farm animals.

Following this, the children will look closely inside the human mouth to identify the different types of teeth that we have and their simple functions. They will consider the diets of different farm animals and compare their teeth to ours. The children will construct and interpret a variety of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey using the theme of farm animals. They will consider the impact of the food chain on the livestock at farms.

The children will identify how habitats change throughout the year and recognise that sometimes this can pose a danger to living things. We will look at how farmers react to the seasonal changes to protect their livestock.

Computing

The children will develop their understanding of how digital images can be changed and edited, and how they can then be resaved and reused. They will consider the impact that editing images can have, and evaluate the effectiveness of their choices.

Art and Design

Linked to their focus on British farming, the children will learn how coloured wool is produced. They will make their own natural dyes and apply these to wool yarn. Inspired by the beauty of spider webs, the children will then create their own tie-dye to support the campaign to save Wilbur the pig (the protagonist in their focus text, 'Charlotte's Web'). They will use the 'spider spiral' tie dye technique and then stitch a word over the top of their design to describe Wilbur.

Music

The children will learn about the composer *Saint Saens* and his piece, *Carnival of the Animals*.

After revising the chords C, F and G on the ukulele they will learn to play chords to accompany a variety of nursery rhymes which they will sing together with our Reception children.

Listening to music, including Kerry Andrew's No Place Like, the children will be able to identify the piano, clarinet and string instruments.

Finally, the children will compose rhythmic phrases, based around the theme of 'home', to be performed both vocally and using body percussion. They will use motifs, ostinato, repetition and looping to create a sound collage