Gorringe Park Primary School

Dear Families,
The best learning takes place when the context is meaningful and made real to the child's own life. We hope that by sharing our aims, you and your family will support your child's learning in any way you can.
If you have any skill, resources or knowledge that you can contribute and share with us at school, please see your child's class teacher.

Year Five

Spring One

Peasants, Princes and Pestilence!

MATHS

This half term, we will revist multiplication and division, using formal written methods. We will then be studying fractions, including how to multiply fractions with an integer, finding fractions of an amount as well as using fractions as operators.

ENGLISH

In English, we will be studying "Freedom Bird" by Jerdine Nolan and Beowulf by Michael Morpurgo. We will be building on our use of expressive and figurative language, whilst also developing our characterisation and authorial voice. Whilst reading this, we will be discussing how authors use language to impact the reader.

RE

In R.E, we will be studying Jewish beliefs and practices. We will also be discussing different ways in which Jewish people show commitment to God.

PE

During this half term, we will be learning how to play basketball. Through this, we aim to develop our teamwork, stamina and hand-eye coordination skills.

HISTORY

In History this half term, we will be investigating the origins of a medieval pandemic. We will learn about the origins of the black death and how it came to Britain. We will explore the different social classes in medieval times and its impact it had on people's health.

SCIENCE

In Science, we will be expanding our understanding of materials, whilst looking at how we can utilise different materials in day-to-day life. Additionally, we will be investigating materials which insulate, materials which evaporate and materials which produce gases.

MUSIC

In Music, we will be listening to pop ballads. By the end of the term, we will have explored the basic style indicators of a pop ballad.

ART

In Art, we will explore land art. We will consider how to manipulate natural objects to create sculptures.

Peasants, Princes and Pestilence!

Lock your doors and pull up the drawbridge: the dreaded 'Great Pestilence' is here.

At the start of this term, we'll meet a strange character and use a range of source materials to research the symptoms of the Black Death. Our geography skills will help us understand how the black death came to Britain and why it spread so quickly. We'll investigate the effects of bacteria on the human body and find out about disgusting and dangerous plague 'cures'. Our personal plague journals will record the horror of the black death and we'll write poetry inspired by Geoffrey Chaucer. We'll learn about the 'dance of death' and perform dances inspired by Saint-Saen's *Danse Macabre*. We'll learn about different social classes, understand the reasons for the Peasants' Revolt, take part in a mock battle and learn what it was like to be a knight.

Help your child prepare for their project

This half term, we'll travel back to the dark and deadly world of 14th century Britain. Why not visit your local library or museum to see if the 14th-century plague affected your area? You could also look around your house with an adult to see how many products there are that are made to tackle germs. Would they have helped to prevent the spread of the plague? Alternatively, read a book together that is set during a plague. How were the characters' lives affected by the deadly disease?