

English: We will use the texts First to the Top and Race to the Frozen North to learn about and explore different forms of writing such as formal letters, newspapers and non chronological reports. We will focus on clarity of information with these non-fiction genres and continue to reinforce understanding of sentence structure and punctuation. We will explore characterisation and first person writing using the compelling story, The ice Palace.

Science: We will learn about push and pull forces, how they can interact and how they affect many things in our daily lives. We will use this knowledge to explore magnetic forces and examine how compasses work and can be created.

Art: We will embark on an extended Design and Technology project linked to our Curriculum work and Explorers topic. Drawing inspiration from our different texts as well as specific drama and role play activities, we will design, make and evaluate their own miniature polar/arctic shelter using exclusively recyclable materials. We will be encouraged to think proactively about their designs in order to overcome difficulties and obstacles. They will reflect on the whole project to identify successes and future areas for development.

What does it take to be an explorer?

Geography: We will develop a strong understanding of how to effectively and purposefully use different types of map to find information. We will learn about the 7 continents of the world and identify key geographical features in Europe. Using the knowledge gained from using maps, we will attempt to create our own map of the school playground.

#### Texts:

- First to the Top by David Hill
- Race to the Frozen North by Catherine Johnson
- The Ice Palace by Robert Swindells

Physical Education: We will take part in a range of games and activities to improve our static and dynamic balances. We will also work on improving our agility. As part of our PE lessons this half term we will learn how to cooperate with team mates by listening to them, taking turns and praising/encouraging them. We will also learn how to give constructive feedback to our team members.



**RE:** We will learn about the importance of the Holy Trinity in the Christian faith and how these three persons are represented and worshipped. We will explore how God is represented in different forms of artwork before creating their own picture based on the baptism of Jesus.

**French:** We will continue to learn and practise common introductory phrases and greetings. This will be done through a variety of spoken and role play activities. We will learn the numbers 1-10 as well as some of the common colours.

**Schools of Sanctuary:** We will learn about the little known, African American explorer Matthew Henson, who was reportedly the first person to reach the geographical north pole. We will also discuss and debate the reasons behind exploration and whether these reasons are always ethical and necessary.

**PATHS:** We will continue to learn about, explore and understand a variety of emotions and how these may manifest themselves in different ways. We will do this through lots of story telling, role play and discussion based activities where we can draw on our own experiences and emotional responses to situations.

**HISTORY:** We will learn about a number of influential explorers throughout history including Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay, Matthew Henson, Christopher Columbus and Amelia Earhart. We will examine how exploration has influenced and shaped the societies that we live in today.

**Maths:** We will continue to learn about number and place value, building up confidence in this essential element of Mathematics. Using a variety of concrete, pictorial and abstract representations, we will learn to add and subtract 3 digit numbers whilst exchanging across tens and hundreds boundaries. We will also learn to confidently multiply and divide numbers through the processes of repeated addition and equal sharing.

#### Optional Activities:

Whilst we don't set any formal homework at Avenue Junior School, we do ask that you read with your child for 10 minutes per day. This could be using the texts available on the Rising Stars Online Library, or books you may have at home. If you do not have access to Rising Stars, please speak to your child's teacher.

It can sometimes be nice to do some additional activities at home linked to our work in school and so below we've given a few suggestions of activities you might

- Look at a map of the world and discuss with your child places you have been or would like to visit. Where would they like to visit and why?
- Visit a local park, such as Heigham Park, Eaton Park or the Plantation Garden. How many different types of leaves can your child find? Can they match them to the tree they came from? Can they research them using books or the internet to find out the name of the tree? What wildlife (or signs of wildlife) can you see?
- Use a map of Norwich to locate your house and the school. Can your child follow their route to school on the map? This could be an OS map of the local area or using an online mapping service such as Google Maps.
- Design and make some colourful and creative posters to help practise and remember your times tables. Ensure that you're confident with the 2x, 5x, 10x tables before moving onto the others.