

Edward Feild Primary School

Marsupials (Lower KS2) Curriculum Newsletter Summer Term Topic: **The Romans**

Useful Websites

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/z69k7ty> (Maths)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/z6wwxnb> (Science)

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/Romans.html> (Topic)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primaryhistory/romans/> (Topic)



Literacy

In our daily lessons, we are continuing to teach children to read and write a wide range of text genres. Our topic of The Romans will be the focus for our stories. The children are learning the legend of *Romulus and Remus* which is a story that explains how the city of Rome was named and came to be built. Children will also read and write information texts about aspects of the Romans, including diaries, discussions and historical reports.

As always we are building on the children's knowledge and understanding. This is now including Next Steps lessons in which time is devoted to helping each child to make progress with their spelling, punctuation, grammar, handwriting or vocabulary, often referring specifically to the skills from their individual targets sheets.

Science

We will be studying plants in some detail. Spring arrived with a great flourish in April – but at the time of writing this it seems to have gone into a bit of a retreat in May! We will have another look at some local habitats and see how the abundance of plant and animal life has changed.

We hope to give each child the opportunity to grow their own small plant in the school grounds and watch it gain shape, size and maybe even flower. We will do some experiments with seeds to see what factors affect speed and sustainability of plant growth.

Mathematics

We will continue to work with children on their key skills with number, calculation, fractions, geometry and statistics. Each week there will be at least one investigative lesson so that children regularly experience the need to apply their Maths skills and make their own decisions about which ones need to be used when.

PE and Games

This term we are lucky to have Matt Baker teaching the children Basketball on Tuesday afternoons. Mr Nutt will be teaching tennis and rounders. Children will learn not only racquet skills and tactics but also reasons for keeping fit and how to work as a team. He will also be teaching and coaching some athletics skills in preparation for 'Quad Kidz' athletics festivals and sports day.

PE is timetabled for Monday and Tuesday most weeks. However it is useful to have PE kits in school for the whole week. Please can you ensure that children bring their PE kits into school.

ICT

ICT will be used to support work on our topic of 'The Romans'. In particular, children will be developing their research skills, learning how to search effectively using a search engine, as well as learning to scan for information which is relevant to the question they want to answer.

Music

Singing lessons will include songs related to our SEAL topics, some worship songs, and some songs that will especially challenge children's vocal range and rhythmic agility. In the Roman Empire, music was used to celebrate occasions, ward off illnesses, enhance poetry, and tell stories; we will aim to create our own music to match these purposes (although we cannot guarantee that any particular diseases will be prevented).

RE

This term we will be focussing on Christianity, understanding some reasons why Christians believe Jesus is significant and special. The children will learn about how the teachings of Jesus affect the way Christians live. We will also be considering who or what affects values, beliefs or actions and identifying characteristics of a good leader or role model.

History

The children will be learning about Roman Britain and what life was like for the Celts both before and after the Roman invasion. We will be finding out about life in the Roman army, homes, food, clothing and many other aspects of Roman life. If the children have books at home on the topic that they would like to share with the class please feel free to bring them in.

Art & DT

This term the art and design focus will be based around our Roman topic. We will be designing and making colourful mosaics. The children will also be designing and making shields and swords. For this we will need to start collecting cardboard. Therefore the children may begin to bring this in now.

Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education

Our SEAL topics this term are Relationships and Changes. Our focus in April and May is on relationships. This includes thinking about people who are special to us, what feelings they give us, and how our choices can be influenced by these relationships. Also what we can do to strengthen them. In June and July the focus will be Changes. Children will think about how to prepare for and react sensibly to changes small and great, expected and unexpected, better and worse.