

English

Russet class will begin the half term by exploring *The Boy Who Swam With Piranhas* by David Almond. The children will write stories which show character and create atmosphere. To achieve this, they will explore the characters in the book and investigate the impact of Almond's language choices. They will then learn to apply a range of grammatical features, such as joining main clauses using colons or semicolons and using speech to portray character. Later in the half term, they will look at *Hoot* by Carl Hiaasen. This text will provide opportunities for persuasive writing.

English in Bramley Class will involve the children studying the novella text *Cloud Tea Monkeys* by Mal Peet and Elspeth Graham. The children will begin by making predictions, drawing inferences about a character before considering the author's use of language that implies a character's change of mood. This will lead to the children writing a series of diary entries as the main character using the first person and use of the past tense. Grammar will be woven throughout the lessons considering the use of prepositions, fronted adverbials and the use of expanded noun phrases.

Maths

In Russet class, the children will continue to develop their arithmetic knowledge, working on building confidence with a range of written and mental methods to add, subtract, multiply and divide. They will start the half term with geometry, where they will classify a range of 2D and 3D shapes, before looking at angles and how to calculate missing angles. This will lead on to investigating coordinates, translation and reflection.

In Bramley class, the children will continue to look at learning to tell the time from an analogue clock, including using Roman numerals from I to XII, and 12-hour and 24-hour clocks. We will consider the number of seconds in a minute and the number of days in each month, year and within a leap year. During the term, the children will also continue to develop their number skills, using the four operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division whilst solving number problems and practical problems as well as rounding number to the nearest 10, 100 or 1000.

Science

In Years 3 and 4, the children will develop their understanding of the States of Matter. They will learn that materials can exist as solids, liquids, or gases and explore how these states can change. They will investigate processes such as melting, freezing, evaporation and condensation and will be introduced to the water cycle. In Years 5 and 6, the children's learning will build on this foundation through the topic *Properties and Changes of Materials*. They will explore and compare a wide range of everyday materials based on their properties. They will investigate reversible and irreversible changes, including dissolving, mixing, burning and rusting, and learn how new materials can be formed.

Design and Technology

The children will be researching and tasting different ice creams, as well as learning about what makes a good container for ice cream. The children will be researching marketing tools for advertising their ice cream, as well as choosing, designing and making a flavour of ice cream as part of a group. Working as part of a team, this will then be evaluated against a success criteria.





Ice Cream Dream

Gratitude

This half term, we will consider the value of gratitude; recognising simple joys and showing appreciation for others. The children will also participate in *Before We Eat* discussions, where they will learn about the effort made behind food production and the role that many people play in this process.

Rationale:

This half term, the children will explore how ice cream is made and marketed. Through investigating ingredients, production methods, flavours and packaging, the children will learn how design choices influence quality and consumer appeal. They will apply this knowledge creatively by designing, making and evaluating their own ice creams in groups. To accompany their ice cream, the children will create packaging, jingles and posters to use in their own sales pitches. This learning experience will complement their project with MP, Sarah Dyke, where they will be exploring milk production and researching fairness in supply chains.

Start Date: Tuesday 6th January

End Date: Friday 13th February

Hook: Monday 12th January

The children will be visiting Ecco Gelato in Sherborne. They will learn how they source their ingredients and make their ice cream. They will have an opportunity to taste a range of flavours and discuss the flavours that are most popular with customers, as well as how these are marketed to the public.

Outcome:

The children will work together in groups to design, make and market their own flavour of ice cream based on their own research. This will then be evaluated by the children, focusing not only on the flavour of their ice cream but also how successful their marketing campaign was.

Take home task:

Choose one or even more of the following:

- Plan and create a survey to collect information about what makes people buy a particular ice cream brand. Conduct the survey, gathering a range of people's viewpoints and present it in the form of a chart (e.g. bar graph/pie chart) or presentation.
- Write instructions for how to make a great ice-cream, ensuring steps are clear and concise.
- Annotate photographs of ice cream packaging, explaining what makes them effective.
- Create a presentation or poster about famous or local ice cream makers

Hand in date: Monday 9th February 2026

How you can support your child at home:

- Talk to your child about what influences your purchases while shopping
- Learn times table facts up to 12 x 12 and associated division facts.
- Ensure that your child reads at home daily and has the opportunity to discuss their reading with you. Please record their reads in their reading record.
- Help them to learn the spellings from the statutory Year 5/6 word list, as well as their weekly spellings.
- Encourage your child to complete their weekly homework and take home task.task,encouragingindependence where possible.

PSHE:

This half term, the focus will be on Health and Wellbeing. Years 3 and 4 will be exploring how food choices, exercise, dental hygiene, positive relationships and managing feelings all contribute to our mental and physical health. Similarly, Years 5 and 6 will recognise the different food groups and explore the impact of achieving a balanced and healthy diet. They will also look at the importance of sleep and the role of relaxation techniques to help them manage uncomfortable emotions.