

The Ridgeway

Year 3 — Autumn Term 2



Reading

In reading, the children are exploring poetry by Michael Rosen, the well-loved author of *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*. They are enjoying his playful style through poems like *Chocolate Cake*, which use rhythm, rhyme, and humour to bring words to life. Michael Rosen also teaches an important lesson about accepting emotions and knowing that it's okay to cry, helping children understand feelings in a positive way.

Maths

In maths, the children are building on what they already know about multiplication and division. They are learning to use these skills with larger numbers and are starting to focus on their 3, 4, and 8 times tables. This helps them understand patterns in numbers and prepares them for more complex problem-solving in the future. Practising these skills also builds confidence and accuracy when working with calculations.

Writing

This term, we are learning how to write in different styles by focusing on character descriptions and recount letters. The children are exploring the life and work of Sir David Attenborough, using him as inspiration for their writing. They are developing key skills such as using descriptive language, structuring their ideas clearly, and improving their speaking and listening through oracy (Speaking) activities.

Science

In science, the children are learning all about rocks and the different types that make up our planet. They will compare and group rocks based on their properties and learn that soil is made from rocks and organic matter. These activities follow the National Curriculum for Key Stage 2, which encourages children to observe, classify, and ask questions about the world around them. This topic helps them understand Earth's materials and develop practical investigation skills.

Geography

In geography, the children are developing their map and fieldwork skills by learning about the Ridgeway—a historic trail located right here in Oxfordshire. They are exploring its physical features, local landmarks, and how people have used the land over time. Through this, they build a deeper connection to their surroundings and learn how places change and interact over time.

DT

In DT, the children will be designing and making their own Christmas decorations. They will develop their textiles skills by learning cross-stitch and appliqué techniques, combining creativity with practical sewing.

Physical Education

In PE, the children are learning two exciting team sports. On Wednesdays, they play Tag Rugby with Coach Chris, focusing on teamwork, agility, and quick decision-making. On Fridays, they learn Hockey with Mr Heath, practising control, passing, and working together as a team. These activities follow the National Curriculum aim of developing physical skills, teamwork, and a love of active, healthy lifestyles.

Computing

In computing, the children are learning how to log in safely using emails and passwords, helping them understand the importance of online security. They will then focus on data and information, exploring what a database is and how to create one.

Music

In music, the children are continuing to learn the ukulele, building their confidence in playing and performing. They will also listen to and appraise songs from the Rock and Roll genre, exploring its lively rhythms and energy, as well as enjoying traditional Christmas carols.

PSHE

In PSHE, the children are exploring *Celebrating Difference* alongside important themes such as emotions, family conflicts, and how to behave during disagreements. They learn that it's normal to feel strong emotions and practise strategies for staying calm and respectful when problems arise.

Religious Education

In RE, the children are continuing their learning about Hinduism and the celebration of Diwali. They will explore the meaning behind this festival, its traditions, and why it is important to Hindus around the world.