

YEAR TWO TOPIC NEWSLETTER



Autumn 1 Term 2026



Globetrotters (5 weeks)

This is our exciting geography topic where the children learn about the world's seven continents, specifically the continent of Africa, and where the children will have the opportunity to compare an African village with Canford Heath. We will look at similarities and differences between various things such as culture, the weather, location and food.

In literacy, we will study the story of 'Lila and the Secret of Rain', written by David Conway, which is set in Kenya. The children will gain an understanding of different cultures and ways of life in another country. They will then write a non-chronological report, a diary and another story based on the story of 'Lila and the Secret of the Rain' using 'Talk 4 Writing' strategies.

In maths, the children will continue to learn about place value, as well as strategies for addition and subtraction using concrete, pictorial and abstract methods.

In geography, the children will practise their map reading skills by going on a walk around the local area, looking for human and physical features. We will also organise a trip to Poole Quay to complete 'The Cockle Trail Walk', where the children will learn lots about the history of Poole and the famous pirate, Harry Paye.

In science, the children will be learning about habitats and how certain animals are suited to their habitats. In addition to learning about living things and their basic needs, the children will learn about what is alive; what was once alive but is now dead and what has never been alive.

Home Learning Activity

For the children's home learning, we would like them to create their own micro-habitat using an old shoe box. There are some great ideas if you look online ... good luck!

Please can your child's home learning be brought into school by Monday 5th October 2026.

Focus Author

This half term, we will be continuing to read and discuss books and stories written by the author Roald Dahl, such as 'Charlie and The Chocolate Factory' and 'Matilda'.

Diary Dates

During this exciting topic, there are two fantastic trips planned to support your child's learning. Please note that there is a small contribution required towards the use of the minibus for the Cockle Trail trip.

Monday 28th September – Canford Heath Walk (Lions and Tigers)

Tuesday 29th September – Canford Heath Walk (Panthers and Leopards)

Wednesday 30th September - Fraser Photography in school for individual and sibling photos

Tuesday 1st October – Parent information evening 3.30pm-5.30pm

Thursday 1st October – Friendship Day

Wednesday 7th October - PATCH school disco from 4:15pm

Wednesday 7th October – PATCH AGM at CHJS school at 6:30pm

Monday 12th October – Lions' Poole Quay trip to complete Cockle Trail walk

Tuesday 13th October – Tigers' Poole Quay trip to complete Cockle Trail walk

Wednesday 14th October – Leopards' Poole Quay trip to complete Cockle Trail walk

Thursday 15th October – Panthers' Poole Quay trip to complete Cockle Trail walk

Tuesday 20th October – Parents Evening 3:30pm-6pm (letter to follow)

Wednesday 21st October – Parents Evening 4:30pm-7:30pm (letter to follow)

Friday 23rd October – Sponsored Read Launch and Julia Donaldson dress up day

** Letters will follow nearer to the time **

PE – Dance and Outdoor Games

During the 5 weeks of this topic, the children will learn and perform an African dance related to our book, 'Lila and the Secret Rain'.

PE days are as follows:

Lions: Monday and Tuesday

Leopards: Tuesday and Wednesday

Tigers: Monday and Thursday

Panthers: Wednesday and Thursday

In outdoor PE, we will continue to focus on the development of agility, coordination and cooperation through improving technique and stamina in running, skipping and circuits.

Please help us to keep your child safe by removing their earrings on PE and outdoor games days, otherwise they will be unable to take part in these sessions. Please also ensure that if your child has long hair, it is tied back; their PE kit is in school and that their clothes are clearly labelled with their name. Your child's PE bag will stay at school all half term and be sent home for a wash in the holidays.

PSHE and Religion and Worldviews

As detailed in our previous topic newsletter, the children will continue to follow a scheme of work based on JIGSAW in PSHE lessons by thinking about and discussing the school values of trust, excellence, aspirations, collaboration and honesty. They will be reminded of the school charters for a 'happy class'. Also, they will be learning to feel good about themselves; to understand how they and others are feeling and to know what to do to make the classroom and school a safe and fair place.

In Religion and Worldviews, the children will continue to learn about Islam.

As always, if you have any questions about this newsletter, please contact your child's class teacher.

Thank you for your continued support.

***Miss Snow, Miss Woodman, Miss Clark, Mrs Cole
and Mrs Thorne***