Explorers : Were Christopher Columbus and Neil Armstrong brave people ?

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| **History**  We will be investigating explorers from different historical eras this term : Christopher Columbus, an Italian explorer who ‘found’ the Americas in the 15th Century and Neil Armstrong who was became the first man on the moon in 1969. We will also look at Scott of Antarctic who became the second man to reach the South Pole. We will be looking at sources of evidence and how these differ as well as how their journeys and ways of life differed from each other.  WOW Day : Explorers visit to Westonbirt Arboretum | **Science**  Our topic this term will be forces. We will look at push and pull forces and touch upon the idea of gravity. We will also investigate how materials can be stretched, bent, twisted, pushed and pulled using forces. The children will also be developing their ability to ask and their own science questions. The children will be encouraged to develop their own investigations and answer their own questions using simple equipment. |
| **English**  We will be looking at different sentence types this term : statements questions, commands and explanations. We will also develop their ability to write persuasively by writing a leaflet inviting volunteers to join an exploration. Following our trip to Westonbirt Arboretum we will be writing a recount of our trip before finishing the term with some narrative writing based on a quest. | **Maths**  Year 2 will be developing their measurement skills reading scales and measuring length and height, weight, volume and capacity, temperature. Children can be supported with this skill at home with some practical measuring tasks.  Year 1 will also be developing their measurement skills before we look at rotation and angles. |
| **Maths Skills at home :**  **A reminder that all year 2 children should be practising their 2, 5 and 10 times tables at home daily in order to recall these at speed by June along with the related division facts.**  **A reminder that all Year 1 children should be practising their counting skills daily at home so that they are able to count back from 100 as well as recall all their number bonds to 10 and to 20 from memory** | |
| **Design and Technology**  As a link to our work on forces in science, we will be exploring toys that use push and pull forces. We will then design and make our own balloon powered cars which should be great fun ! | **Philosophy for Children or P4C**  We will be carrying on with our weekly sessions introduced last term. Our first enquiry will be :  What is a brave person ?  The children are really enjoying these sessions, becoming better at listening to each other and taking their turn as well as developing some really deep thinking skills. Well done Acorns ! |
| **PE**  In PE Mr Peters will be developing football skills this term during one session of PE. The other session in PE will be devoted to multi-skills. | **RE**  In RE this term we will be looking at the Jewish faith and what it means to be Jewish.  We will also look at the Christian festival of Easter in the last two weeks of the term. |
| **French**  Mrs Campbell will be teaching the children more animal names in French, the children will make animal masks and the learn the songLe Vieux Macdonald [Old Macdonald] | **Music**  We will be learning more about pitch, rhythm and pulse in our unit called Round and Round. Our music will include some Latin tunes as well as themes from Star Wars ! |
| **Computing**  We will be coding again this term using the website Espresso. We will also be using Purple Mash to design a car body for our DT balloon cars. | **Handwriting**  Year 2 will be developing the rest of their joins so that they finish the year with all the skills needed to form neat, joined handwriting.  Year 1 will continue to develop their letter formation until they are sufficiently secure to start joining. |
| **PSHE**  We will be looking at the need for good quality sleep this term and then move on to talk about medicines and drugs that are good for us and those that are not. |