THE BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL ABU DHABI
A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL

Year
5
Term
Spring 2

Curriculum News

English

Our novel for English this half term is Swallows and Amazons, by Arthur Ransome which links nicely to our Humanities topic, Maps and Mapping.
We will be using the novel and extracts from it as a stimulus for our writing over the next few weeks. We will also be making comparisons between the film and book version, finding similarities and differences and discussing the effectiveness of these.
Students will immerse themselves in the text through drama and characterisation activities, developing their knowledge of the characters and understanding of the text.
We will analyse and discuss the effectiveness of the author's choice of language and writing techniques. Students will then apply these skills and techniques in their own writing.

Mathematics

This half term, our focus in Mathematics will be Decimals and Place Value.
Students will learn to read, write, order and compare numbers with up to three decimal places, as well as to read and write decimal numbers as fractions. They will then apply their place value knowledge when solving problems involving numbers up to three decimal places.

In addition, students will develop their understanding of positive and negative numbers.

Also linked to our Map and Mapping topic, students will read and plot coordinates on grids.

They will continue to develop their Mental Math skills through our weekly Math and Times Table challenges.

Humanities and the Arts

Our Humanities topic is, "Maps and Mapping." In Geography, students will examine world maps and develop their understanding of the wider world and also the region of the Middle East.

In addition, students will develop their knowledge and understanding of grid references and map symbols. They will develop their map reading skills in order to identify topography.

In Art and Design, students will study the famous artist, Claude Monet. They will discuss the life and work of Monet and identify how he used space techniques to create the illusion of depth in his artwork. Students will then plan and create a realistic sailboat scene using these techniques to create the illusion of depth.

Science

In Science, we will continue with our Space theme. Students will participate in a range of activities and challenges, which will help to develop their critical thinking and investigative skills.

Students will become 'NASA Space Engineers!' They will be given several missions to complete such as; to design and build a moon lander; an air powered rocket and a space rover. Students will follow the Engineering Design Process of: Build, Test, Evaluate and Redesign.

Following on from this, students will test Martian Soil from Mars and will perform experiments in the Science labs.