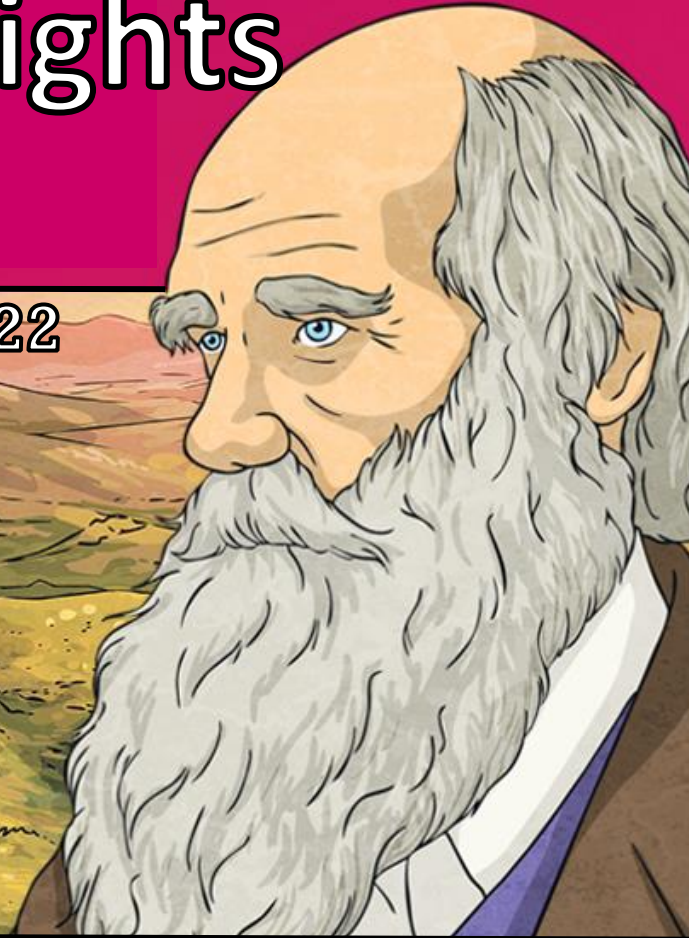


Darwin's Delights

Year Six: Spring Term 2022



Ship ahoy! We're off on an exciting journey with Charles Darwin and his crew on the HMS *Beagle*. During this half term, we're going to investigate a range of animal specimens, describing the characteristics of the creatures, and labelling their body parts using software. We'll use a range of non-fiction books to investigate adaptation, natural selection, variation, and inheritance. After examining letters and journal entries written by Darwin, we'll write our own examples. We'll collect natural items and discover what plants live around our school. We'll retrace Darwin's steps using maps and create sketchbooks to record the plants, flowers, and trees we encounter. Using maps and globes, we'll plan an expedition. What will the weather be like and what physical and man-made features might we encounter? We will think about why the Galapagos Islands developed such diverse animal life, and why they might be under threat. We'll also think about what Darwin would have worked on if he were alive today. How would he use our technology?

This half term, we will be reading the book *Darwin's Dragons* by Lindsay Galvin. **As writers**, we will be writing a warning tale. We will also be looking at recounts and using our knowledge from our project work to write a diary entry.

As **mathematicians**, we will be learning about:

- Algebra
- Area
- Perimeter
- Geometry



As scientists, we will be studying specimens in more depth, producing labelled diagrams on what we observe. We will analyse fossils along with unique creatures found on the Galapagos Islands. Furthermore, we will investigate beaks and how they have adapted to eat specific foods.

As artists and designers, we will be brushing up on our sketching skills. We will work outdoors to sketch plants, flowers, and trees, looking carefully to accurately capture their shape, form, pattern and colour. Darwin established his theory of evolution through sketching. We will sketch fossils and animals to look at adaptations.