

**Who were the Ancient Maya?
Comparing Places - The United Kingdom and South America.**

History/Geography

The children will learn about the Ancient Maya civilisation, looking at where they lived and where this period of time falls chronologically in relation to other Ancient civilisations and periods of history. They will explore comparable themes studied in other topics (i.e. The Shang Dynasty) such as social structures, communication, belief systems, lifestyle elements and achievements. This will be set against a geography topic based on North and South America, where the children will study the wider human and physical geography, before comparing specific countries then regions (London and Rio/Sao Paolo) and their geographical features.



Maths

While developing their reasoning and problem-solving skills, the children will complete units on:
Y6 - ratio, statistics and properties of shape.
Y5 - decimals and percentages, geometry and measurement.

PSHE

The children will look at strategies to positively resolve disputes and reconcile differences in friendships.

They will also learn about responding respectfully to a wide range of people, recognising prejudice and discrimination.

RE

The children will participate in the Bible Explorers 'Walk Through the Bible', learning about the structure and stories of the Old Testament in an interactive way.

Later, they will learn about the religion of Sikhism, including Sikh practices and beliefs and place of worship.

English

Our class texts are 'Pax' by Sara Pennypacker and 'The Mysteries of Harris Burdick' by Chris Van Allsburg. The children will develop the skills needed to write an explanation, as well as narrative writing. They will also study the poem 'When the colours Spoke' and 'Cosmic Disco' by Grace Nichols.

Art

Children will learn to Monoprint. They will create an accurate print design that meets a given criteria. Looking carefully at the methods they use and make decisions about the effectiveness of their printing methods.

French

The children will revise colours and will learn the months of the year and the different seasons.

Computing

The children will review and analyse a computer game and describe some of the elements that make a successful game. They will design the setting for a game to with a specific theme. Later, the children will explore the need for visual representation when generating and discussing complex ideas. They will make connections between thoughts and ideas and understand the importance of recording concept maps.

DT

Linking to last term's Science topic, the children will learn to design, make and evaluate an electrical board game with a focus on using more complex switches within circuits.

Science Topics

Earth and Space - The children will learn about the movement of the earth; about the different characteristics of the planets; explore various theories behind the Big Bang theory; explore what causes the different phases of the moon; and learn about gravitational force.

Forces - The children will learn about gravity, air resistance, water resistance and friction. They will learn about the impact of natural and applied forces and investigate mechanisms (levers, pulleys and gears).

PE

Health and Fitness - The children will plan their basic fitness programme and learn about appropriate warm-up and cool-down activities.

Personal - The children will learn that it takes perseverance and practice to improve their performance. They will set their own targets and will recognise their strengths and weaknesses in a performance.

You can help your child by:

Supporting them with reading for 20 minutes a day; checking Accelerated Reader Home Connect to follow your child's progress in reading; helping them to learn their weekly spellings (encourage the use of Readwriter); practising their times tables with them (encourage the use of Times Tables Rock Stars); supporting them with completing and uploading homework; checking ClassDojo regularly for key information; ensuring they have the correct equipment and PE kit.