

English

In English we will be studying the story “Lucy in the Darkness”. We shall be learning this and then using our TFW activities to innovate and then create our own version of a fear story.

Reading

As our class reading this term we are studying the book Journey to Jo’burg by Beverley Naidoo. We will also be completing activities to go alongside this. Our class story (reading for pleasure) is based on the Year 5&6 recommended reading list. This will change as the term progresses. Alongside our class story we will also be encouraging the children to read their own books from the library. All of these books can be included in their reading journals(as explained in the stay and read session last term). Please encourage your child to read out loud to an adult as often as possible. This helps to build fluency and understanding, whatever level they are working at.



Message from your teachers

We hope this newsletter provides you with some useful information about the areas that our Year 5 & 6 children will be covering this term. We are looking forward to an exciting few terms where we shall try to include as much enrichment as possible alongside our usual learning. If you have any concerns or queries please do not hesitate to contact your child’s class teacher either via email or at the end of the school day. Many thanks.

Mrs Harrington, Mrs Holmes and Mr Walker

Maths

In maths this term, we will be focusing on decimals, percentages and algebra before looking at measure, ratio and proportion. We shall still be spending a lot of time practising the four operations- addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. The children will have daily 4 ops questions and will use the school PowerMaths curriculum in their daily maths lessons. There will be occasional maths homework set on Google Classroom for the children to complete. We recommend that daily times table practice is encouraged- TTR or just oral practice. Multiplication underpins so much of our maths so it is vital that children have a firm understanding of it.



Computing

Within **computing**, we will be looking at using creating digital media. We shall be reviewing different websites and then using what we have found to create our own. We shall look at copyright and how to put in links for our website users to follow a trail that we have set out for them. We shall also be focussing on online safety as part of this.



Home Learning

Children need to read at home as much as possible, preferably a minimum of 3 times per week. Children should also be practising their use of times tables regularly as these underpin much of the KS2 maths curriculum. Alongside these two key skills, we will also set occasional home learning which can be completed on Google Classroom. Useful links have also been provided on the GC for other websites and activities. Your child is already in our new virtual classroom and knows how to access everything independently.



Religious Education

In RE the children will be learning all about ‘Living a Faith’. They will be learning about how religious rites of passage can affect a person’s identity. They will discuss how different people and different life events can affect a person’s belief or shape a person’s identity.





PE



This term in PE we will be doing tennis and basketball.

Both of the PE sessions will be held outdoors and will take place on a **Thursday**. Please ensure children come into school in their PE kits on a Thursday.

Some children will be going swimming on a Thursday afternoon instead of their second PE slot. Please ensure they have their swimming kit in school if you have been informed of this.

Please note: any child with hair longer than chin length will need to tie up their hair for PE sessions and will need to remove earrings.

Science

In this module children learn about reproduction in some types of plants and animals, including humans. This unit builds on the learning about different types of animals and their life cycles begun during previous units.

As they learn about plant reproduction children will extend their knowledge from the function of the different parts of flowering plants. They will also learn that plants can reproduce in other ways, through asexual reproduction. As they learn about reproduction in animals children will find out more about specific mammals, birds, insects and amphibians and how they reproduce.



French

During our French lessons this term we shall be learning about describing rooms in our houses, including bedroom descriptions. We shall be learning how to describe where places in a town are and being able to give directions to different places.

In the second half of the term we shall revise the unit on food, including buying food.

We shall look at what happens in France for April Fool's Day and how traditions and customs are similar or different.



History

This term we will be focusing on the Mayans.

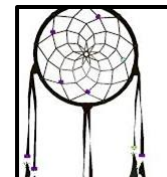
We will be looking at when the Mayans lived and where they lived. We will also be looking at their way of life. At the end of our learning we will be looking at why the Mayan society declined and what their legacy is.



Art

In art we are going to be focusing on the art, sculpture and ceramics of the Maya people. We shall investigate how their culture is represented in their art and the different techniques that were used during their time.

In Design and Technology we shall again be taking our inspiration from the Maya. We shall be using the skills of weaving to create our own dreamcatchers and decorating them accordingly.



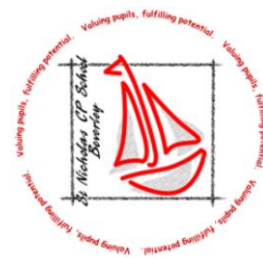
Music

This term all the learning in this unit is focused around one song: You Got a Friend by Carol King. The material presents an integrated approach to music where games, the dimensions of music (pulse, rhythm, pitch etc), singing and playing instruments are all linked. As well as learning to sing, play, improvise and compose with this song, children will listen and appraise other classic rock songs.

Children will continue to access their peripatetic music lessons alongside this: piano, woodwind, drums, guitar and violin



Learning in our theme - Mayans



Subject specific vocabulary	
ancient	stelae
Civilisation	astronomical
city-states	observatories
empire	after-life
irrigation	terrace
glyphs	epigrapher
hierarchy	maize
codex	calendar
codices	pyramid



Knowledge and Facts

Through our history unit we will be focusing on the Mayans. We will be looking at which countries you could have found the Mayans. We will be looking at what life was like for the Mayans and looking at the hierarchical structure. We will be looking at the theories of how the Mayans came to an end.

Reading Spine Books

