

Curriculum Newsletter

Class 5 November – December 2023



All our learning in class this half term will be focused around the question:

How did people in the past protect themselves?

English

- The focus will be on Grammar, punctuation and spelling activities linked to a range of books and folktales including 'The Chocolate Tree' by Linda Lowery and Richard Keep and 'The Curse of the Maya' by Johnny Peace and Andy Loneragon.
- Children will explore sentence structure including the use of complex sentences with a focus on rearranging main and subordinate clauses to enhance their writing.
- Editing and improving their own work as they respond to their targets will be a continued focus.

The outcome will be: to write a persuasive letter, a persuasive invitation to battle and write and take part in a debate.

 Our reading comprehension focus will move from retrieval to now include summarising and sequencing.

How can I help / information for helping

Discuss vocabulary with your child from their reading book.

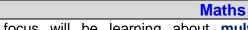
Have your child rearrange the clauses in a sentence, ensuring to add the correct punctuation e.g. 'Sean watched the film even though it was late.' Becomes 'Even though it was late, Sean watched the film.'

What is a main clause?

A main clause is a sentence that contains a verb and a subject. It makes sense on its own and can form a complete sentence. E.G. Sean watched the film.

What is a subordinate clause?

A subordinating clause is a part of a sentence that adds additional information to the main clause. A subordinating clause does not make sense on its own and contains a subordinating conjunction (although, while, however, if, even though, because, until, since). If the subordinating clause is before the main clause, it must be followed by a comma. If the subordinating clause is after the main clause, no comma is needed, eg. Even though it was late, Sean watched the film.



The focus will be learning about multiplication and division.

- There will be an emphasis on number facts and improving our mental and written calculations for multiplication and division.
- We expect all the children to know multiplication and division facts up to the 12 times table for use in calculations. Each week there will be a times tables test; children will then be given a target to improve the speed at which they do the times table or to learn the next one.
- They will continue to solve problems and learn to explain, convince others
 and justify their findings using specific vocabulary: I am certain that..., I
 think... because..., I know that so ... must be
- Additionally, the KIRF target is outlined below; please help your child to achieve this target.

How can I help / information for helping

Please help your child to learn their times tables as this increases mathematical confidence and accuracy.

Practice formal methods of multiplication and division at home.

KIRF Target – Autumn Term 2 I know the multiplication and division facts for all timetables up to 12 x 12.

- Children should be able to answer all multiplication and division questions in any order.
- Children should be able to answer missing number questions e.g. 7 x ___ = 28 or ___ ÷ 6 =
- Children should be familiar with multiplication and division language and be able to use these interchangeably e.g.

What is 12 **multiplied** by 6?

What is 12 times 6?

What is 12 lots of 6?



Topic – (History)

Focus: our history topic is on 'The Ancient Mayan Civilisation'.

Children will learn who they were, where they lived and key aspects of their lives. As a class, we will then consider what we can learn from the past and how people protected themselves both from attack and from the elements in keeping with our half termly theme.



Skills / Knowledge to be developed:

Chronological understanding, knowledge and understanding of events, people and changes in their past.

Applied through:

Topic lessons
English lessons
Guided reading lessons
Our chocolatl day (more information to follow)

How can I help / information for helping

Make a PowerPoint/poster/presentation focusing on a chosen aspect of Mayan life.

Discuss key vocabulary to our topic e.g. civilisation, idol, temple.

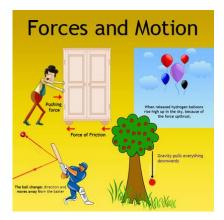
SITE

Focus: Forces.

Scientific Skills / knowledge to be developed:

Develop their knowledge about the idea of gravity and the effects of resistance and friction that act between moving surfaces. The children will learn about scientists in history, who have contributed to our understanding of forces. We will carry out a range of experiments so that the children see the forces taking place first hand.

DT links: We are making a space buggy using our knowledge of forces and how different materials react to the forces of gravity, friction and resistance. **Computing links:** To use coding programmes including Scratch and code.org to explore how algorithms work. We will then apply this to our parachute by evaluating and editing our own algorithms.



Focus:

P.E this half term will focus on **invasion** games/gymnastics.

P.E

Skills / knowledge to be developed:

Teamwork, resilience and tactical knowledge/Agility, balance & co-ordination.

Applied through:

Children will continue with their invasion games through Netball and Hockey activities, developing into formal games. In gymnastics they will develop core **strength and stability** through balancing games which can then be applied into other areas of the P.E. curriculum.



P.E. this term will be on a **Tuesday morning**.

How can I help / information for helping

Explore how different forces act on everyday objects in the home.

Research how algorithms are used in everyday life.

How can I help / information for Helping

Please ensure that children have both an outdoor and indoor kit in school (including trainers) for the whole week as other indoor and outdoor sessions might take place at alternative times.

French	Music	PSHE / MindMate	R.E.
French Focus: Places in the town. Skills / knowledge to be developed: Learning key French vocabulary linked to places in a town; how to form simple sentences; asking and responding to questions. Applied through: Using the 'Jolie Ronde' scheme of work and constructing a piece of writing about life in their area.	Music Focus is: "Livin' On A Prayer" – Bon Jovi Skills / knowledge to be developed: Applied through: This is a fun unit of work about classic Rock music. Using 'Charanga', learning takes place through games, the dimensions of music (pulse, rhythm, pitch etc); identifying instruments in a song and playing instruments. BON JOVI	PSHE / MindMate Focus: RSE (Relationship, Sex Education) including keeping safe. Skills / knowledge to be developed: RSE will focus on the physical and emotional experiences children may encounter over the next few years. Keeping safe will focus on developing the children's understanding of how to stay safe in both real life situations and on the internet. Applied through: Discussion, PSHE lessons, circle time.	R.E. Focus: Why are some places and journeys special? Skills / knowledge to be developed: developing the children's awareness of what places and journeys are important to other people and in different religions. This enables children to identify what places and journeys are important to them. Applied through: Circle time, RE lessons, discussion.
How can I help / information for helping Discuss what the children have learnt and get them to teach someone else in their family.	How can I help / information for helping Encourage your child to practise singing at home. Ask your child if they can explain the inter-related dimensions.	How can I help / information for Helping Discuss feelings with your child and what they have learned in class – how does this apply in your home? Discuss keeping safe and who they can talk to in and out of school.	How can I help / information for Helping Discuss the importance of different places and journeys and how a wide range of people from all over the world have different perspectives based on the religion they choose to follow.

Homework Any Other Information / Dates for the Diary Monday 13th November - Parent drop in at Shadwell **Ongoing Homework** • Reading: 15 minutes reading every night (logged by the children and noted in their reading record). Wednesday 15th November - Progress Café Yr4/5/6 (am) KIRF target: See maths section Times Tables: see Homework Diarv. Friday 17th November - Children in Need, children can wear something TT Rock Stars: We encourage children to use this online resource to spotty develop fluency in their times tables using a 'little and often' approach. Children should aim for five minutes a day on TT Rock Stars. They will get **Thursday 30th November - FOSS** wreath making workshop (7.30pm) certificates each week for being a TT Rock Star. Spellings: Learn the lists sent home and words outlined as common Friday 1st December - Christmas Jumper Day errors in their Homework Diary. Monday 11th December - FOSS Christmas shop Please continue to log children's progress with these activities in the weekly homework diary - children earn House Points for each part that Thursday 21st December - Last day of term is fully completed. Friday 22nd December - Training Day Maths / English Homework This year there will be two pieces of homework each week. Homework is given Look out for all the praise children will be getting through out on a Thursday, to be returned the following Tuesday. TEAMWORK our colourful 'THE BEST' certificates and our silver and There will be an English based task on either comprehension or grammar HONESTY gold coupons. once each week, and a maths based task. These will be pre-teaching of a new objective or consolidation of class work in class. Please ensure that your child has a water bottle in school Please encourage your child to discuss their homework at home in order every day. They must remember to take it home every that they develop the skills of explanation and reasoning. Children will be BELIEVE evening to wash the bottle and bring it in to school already set an optional Learning Log activity once during every half term. This will be full. This will ensure that the bottles are kept clean and germrelated to the Enriched Curriculum. On weeks when this is set, it will replace EMPATHY free for the children's use each day. Maths and English homework. To keep our children safe, please can we politely ask that you refrain from using the school field and climbing equipment after school and please leave the grounds as TRUST quickly as possible.

Thank you, as always, for your continuous help and support. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us or make an appointment at the office to arrange a meeting after school.

Miss Cammiss & Mrs Senior