

Topic

Our topic for this half term is 'The Americas'. This will encompass a lot both in terms of History and Geography—from the Native Americans and the early European settlers through to modern America. We will study the ancient civilisations of the Mayans and compare with our society. We will also base some of our work on the book 'The man who walked between the Towers' by Mordicai Gerstein. It is a fantastic picture book about a French acrobat who walked between the Twin Towers in New York.

English Fiction

Children will have the opportunity to write stories, information leaflets and newspaper articles based on our class book '. English work will be linked to our topic helping the children to deepen their understanding. As a school, we feel that if they can be encouraged to write creatively it will help them to understand the characters in the story and their motivation behind the words they speak and the actions they carry out. Children will continue to develop their use of thesauruses to help extend their vocabulary.

In reading children will be developing their comprehension skills involving looking at different types of questions and what skills are required to answer them as well as entering discussion based on our class novel.

Non-Fiction

Pupils will be studying different elements of SPAG (spelling, punctuation and grammar) which they will embed into their independent writing. The children will be developing their skills of reading for information during both reading and topic lessons.

Learning Behaviours

We always aim to focus on praising the positive behaviour demonstrated. We have also introduced a traffic light system to encourage 'green behaviour'. Children who display positive behaviour will remain on green. If inappropriate behaviour is shown, a warning is given. If the child does not make the right choice, their name will be moved to amber. Should the child immediately improve his/her behaviour and follow instructions given by an adult, their name is moved back up to green. Any more serious incidents will result in their name being moved straight to red. Any child who stays on green all week will result in a message sent to parents with the good news.

Maths

We are mindful that children will have missed vital teaching during the previous few months resulting in potential gaps in their knowledge. Because of this, we will be looking to teach relevant lessons from the previous year group along side the current year. We will continue to follow a maths mastery approach to help deepen children's understanding and create links between different areas of maths. This half term we will be covering: Reasoning with large whole numbers; Problems solving and Line graphs.

Scientific and technological understanding

This half term, pupils will be studying 'Electricity'. Children will learn to represent circuits using symbols in a diagram. They will learn about two of the most important scientific inventors in the field of electricity - Thomas Edison and Nikola Tesla. Children will get the opportunity to develop their understanding of what electricity is and how to measure it. As well as conducting their own investigation, they will get the opportunity to create their own torch!

History and Geography

Children will be studying the Americas to identify who lived there and why European people settled there. They will also look at ancient civilization of the Mayan, comparing and contrasting their lives with their own.

Art and design

Children will be using digital cameras to take photos using digital cameras and Ipads and manipulate these to create new images.

PSHE

As part of Jigsaw we will be discussing how we feel 'Being me in my world.' We will be exploring our hopes and fears ahead of us this year and recognise how to become a successful learner. We will also look at being respectful to others to allow them to reach their full potential too. PSHCE will be crucial this half term as children return to school from Lockdown. They will be given time and space to express their feelings, worries and concerns.

Religious Education

During our study of Sikhism, children will be learning what determines levels of commitment; what Sikhs give up for their religion and what is the Langar.

PE

For the foreseeable future, we will have PE slots on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Please make sure your child has their kit in for those days.

The correct PE kit of white t-shirt and black shorts is expected along with appropriate footwear.

*** Reminders ***

Snacks

This year we will not be supplying snacks to purchase at break time but children can bring fruit to eat as a snack (no cereal bars).

School times.

During this current time, Class 8 will begin their day at 9:10am. You are welcome to stand with your child in the square to the right nearest the school gate if you arrive a bit early. At 9:10, your child will make their way down to the next square towards the school where Mrs Faley will be waiting for them.

Home time pick up is at 3:25pm. You are welcome to wait in the same square, on the right nearest the gates. The children will stand in the square nearest the school. Once we see you, your child will be free to join you. If your child walks home alone, please can you send a letter giving permission.

Homework

Homework is given out to all children on a Friday and will need to be handed in by the following Wednesday. Creative homework linked to our topic will be set each half term (see separate menu).

Please can your child also read at home at least three times a week and make sure they bring their reading diary each day to school with them.

Spellings will be given out on a Friday for the following week.

School Contact Details

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**Class 8
Year 5/6
Curriculum Newsletter**

Autumn Term One

2020 - 2021

If you need to have a word with your child's teacher please arrange an appointment after school when they will be happy to discuss your questions or concerns.