

PE

We will be developing our running, jumping, balancing and throwing skills through indoor athletics this term. We will also continue with our weekly swimming lessons, aiming to all be able to swim at least 25m unaided.

Computing

We will develop our programming skills by writing code to control clever little bits of kit called Micro:bits. By using the online editor, we will learn how to get them to send signals, respond to inputs, display outcomes and play games.

This half-term, we'll be learning about...

Science

Space!

We will continue to learn about the Earth, Sun, Moon and our place in the solar system. We will explore the way the Earth both revolves on its axis and orbits the sun, and the way that these movements create day, night, seasons and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky. We will also investigate how ideas about the solar system have changed over time.

The Arts

We will be embarking on a DT project this half-term, creating wearable hats and caps. We will investigate existing products, looking at the materials used and the way they are joined together, and will then use this to inspire our own designs. We will then cut and shape materials and use stitching to join them in order to create functional hats that we can wear (and hopefully stay dry).

Maths

Having secured lots of key arithmetic skills last term, we will now focus on applying them to different areas of maths. We will learn to compare, order, add and subtract fractions, and will link these to equivalent percentages. We will also learn to calculate percentages and fractions of amounts. After that, we will move on to geometry, finding the area and perimeter of shapes made of rectangles and beginning to explore volume. Later in the term, we will build on our knowledge of angle, using protractors to measure angles and calculating angles in triangles and on straight lines. Throughout the term we will continue to develop our tables knowledge, and will be tested on this regularly.

Humanities

We will be exploring the world of Ancient Greece, learning about their Gods, wars, myths, clothes, theatre and governments. We will also be looking carefully at how this civilisation fits into the timeline of periods we already know about, and considering how Greek civilisation influenced those that followed (particularly the Romans), and how we still use Ancient Greek ideas (and words) today. We will also be exploring Greek Gods and myths, reading about the adventures of Zeus, Athene, Odysseus, Perseus and Heracles.

In RE, we will be exploring the question, "Why doesn't Christianity always look the same?" and learning about the way Christians around the world practice their faith.

English

Our next writing unit will focus on biographies. We will use a collection of fantastic books retelling the lives of ground-breaking scientists from history to help us to explore the features of biographical writing, including the use of quotes, relative clauses and brackets. At the end of the unit, we will pull all of these skills together to write our own biographies of people who inspire us.

Later in the term we will move on to examine persuasive writing, using a fab book called *The Misadventures of Frederick* by Ben Manley as our starting point. Our final task for this unit will see us writing letters to Miss Shaw, trying to persuade her to change something at school.

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PE

Keeping fit, happy and healthy is always important. There are links to lots of great resources and workouts to help everyone in the family get active at www.sportengland.org/jointhemovement

Computing

- All of the tasks we'll be working on in class are available at microbit.org. There are links to the MakeCode editor we've been using, loads of project ideas and lots more information about these clever devices.

Ideas for supporting learning at home:

Science

- Head out on a clear evening and look up at the night sky - can you see how the moon's changing shape, spot the planet Venus or identify constellations like Orion and Ursa Major?
- Lots of Professor Brian Cox's fantastic TV programmes about space are available on iplayer - his Solar System series offers a great introduction for budding scientists.

The Arts

Our Greeks topic is full of opportunities for home art projects - making vases, drawing pictures of Gods or creating costumes and shields. Great places to find ideas include: activityvillage.co.uk/ancient-greece-crafts
mysteriesintime.com/7-ancient-greek-project-ideas-to-try-today/
bakerross.co.uk/craft-ideas/

Maths

As always, quick recall of tables facts is vital for many of the strategies we use, so it would be brilliant if you could work on this. Focus on one table at a time and try:

- Making-up rhymes to help remember number facts ("4 x 6 is 24, bears growl and lions roar!")
- Looking for numbers in that table in the world around you - on doors, car number plates, in phone numbers or when you're out shopping.
- Writing-out tables with finger paints, chalk or water-on-tarmac, or make them from playdoh.
- Chanting, singing, whispering... Say tables out loud together whenever you have the chance.

Humanities

- In history we are learning about the Ancient Greeks, which provides lots of opportunities for learning beyond the classroom - particularly linked to Greek Myths, which are full of amazing characters. There's lots of video and information to get you started available on BBC Bitesize at www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z87tn39
- If you're up for a day out, we only saw a fraction of what the British Museum has to offer, and it's free for the whole family to visit.
- In RE, we will be talking about different forms of Christianity. Look out for different churches when you're out and about and think about how they are similar and how they differ.

English

- Constant practice of reading - and discussion of what's been read - is just about the most valuable thing you can do at home. Try to listen to your child as often as possible and talk to them about what's happened so far and what they think might happen next.
- Spelling homework goes out every Thursday, so please help your child to learn these. You can find more advice on supporting spelling at: www.bedwell.herts.sch.uk/learning/spelling_strategies.pdf
- There are absolutely loads of versions of Greek myths available to read and watch. Try starting with the BBC's short audio versions: www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/articles/zk73nrd

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