

PE

We will be developing our coordination, agility and fitness through cricket and athletics this term. In cricket we will focus on our ability to bowl accurately, and in athletics we will develop our ability to jump, run and throw.

Computing

We will begin to draw together all our knowledge of design, word-processing, publishing and photography to produce a leavers book, recalling our time at Bedwell. We will include information about favourite activities, experiences and friends, as well as lots of pictures.

English

We will be using the brilliant story *Holes*, by Louis Sachar, to inspire our writing across a variety of genres and forms. We will write diary entries and letters from the point of view of Stanley, the boy at the centre of the story who has been sent to a boot camp called Camp Green Lake. We will write reports and discussions on life at the camp and the fairness (or otherwise) of its punishments, as well as producing lots of descriptive writing linked to the characters and settings that we meet.

Finally, we will continue to work on our spelling and grammar knowledge, revising all of the rules and terminology we have covered so that Year 6 are ready for their SATs in May.

Science

Life-cycles

We will extend our understanding of living things by exploring the way that different plants and animals change as they age. We will identify the stages that they pass through, comparing the life cycles of a range of mammals, insects, birds and amphibians. We will also learn about the way that babies grow and develop, both before and after birth.

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



HOLE

EAGLES & FALCONS - SUMMER 2024

The Arts

Our preparations for our end-of-year production of *We Will Rock You* will be kicking into gear! We will practice singing songs from the musical, encouraging those who feel confident to try out some of the solo parts. In art, meanwhile, we will be creating Mayan-inspired designs, paintings and models.

Maths

Year 6 will be working hard to revisit and revise the key maths knowledge we have worked on over the last year, so that we are as prepared as possible for our SATs in May. We will continue to practice our arithmetic skills every day (particularly those tricky fraction, percentage and division calculations), and will be working to apply what we know to new problem solving situations, often involving money and measures. We will be brushing-up on our understanding of time, angles and co-ordinates, and will have opportunities to suggest key areas that we would like to revise in our last few lessons before our tests. Then, once all that is out of the way, we have some fun work on nets and pie charts to look forward to.

Humanities

History : Magnificent Mayans
We will begin by discovering who the Mayans were, where they lived and when their civilisation existed. We will then investigate their daily lives, comparing their homes, schools, clothes, food and warriors with other historical civilisations we have already learnt about (eg. Greeks, Romans, Vikings and Normans). We will also be exploring Mayan Gods and religion and examining the way that historians can learn about lives in Mayan times. Finally, we will be exploring Mayan Art and using this to inspire our own work.

RE : Belief and meaning

We will develop our understanding of Islam, exploring the way that the belief in Akhirah - everlasting life after death - helps Muslims to lead a better life.

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

While we're using Publisher to create leavers' books, think about how else you could use IT to capture memories - video could be a great way to do this, and there's a nice BBC Bitesize guide at www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zf2f9j6/articles/zyb72hv

Ideas for supporting learning at home:

Science

Look for examples of living things growing and changing all around us - in the garden, can you spot plants sprouting and growing their first leaves? In the trees and bushes around us, can you spot chicks being fed and starting to grow? Check in with the ducks in the park - over a few weeks, how do the ducklings change and grow, becoming more independent and getting ready to fly...

The Arts

It would be great to see the whole of Year 6 trying out for main parts when we get to auditions for *We Will Rock You* in the summer, and practicing singing some of the songs would be a great way to support your child in building their confidence for this - you can find the whole soundtrack (and clips from the London production) on YouTube.

Maths

Quick recall of tables facts continues to be vital for so much of the maths we do, so keep practicing at home as much as possible. 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

- To learn more about the Mayans, have a look at the BBC Bitesize resources at www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zq6svcw. This includes really quick video clips that explain who the Mayans were and where they came from, and will give us a good head-start in lessons.
- Mayan art is bright, colourful and exciting, so have a Google for Mayan masks or Mayan art KS2 and see if you can spot something you'd like to have a go at making. To start with, there are some nice step-by-step instructions for making a Mayan mask at babblingvagabonds.co.uk/blog/2020/04/how-to-make-a-mayan-mask/
- If you're going into London this term, the British Museum has a gallery of Mayan artefacts - and it's free to visit. Find out more at britishmuseum.org

English

- Constant practice of reading - and discussion of what's been read - is just about the most valuable thing you can do at home. Encourage your child to read and talk to them about what's happened so far and what 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.bedwellherts.sch.uk/learning/spelling_strategies.pdf
- Think about what makes stories tense, scary or surprising, and have a go at writing your own adventure. There are handy guides to get you started on the BBC Bitesize site at www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zx339j6

HOLEES

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