

## 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

Linked to our English topic, we will be creating comic book pages and stop-motion animations to retell our warning stories. Both of these projects will involve storyboarding our ideas, taking photos and then using IT to edit images and combine them to tell a story.

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



# HEED THE WARNING!

FOXES - SUMMER 2024

## English

Our next unit will see us exploring *Warning Stories* - adventures where children ignore the advice of adults and go somewhere distinctly dangerous. We will begin by reading and summarising some great examples to help us to understand this genre, and will then work in teams to create and (carefully and safely) act-out warning stories of our own, using Fairlands Park as our setting. We'll record the key dramatic moments using ipads, and will then turn these into comic book pages using some clever apps. All of this will help us to really understand our characters, as well as giving us lots of opportunities to collect fantastic descriptive language - and that, in turn, should enable us to write some fantastic final pieces!

## 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.

## The Arts

Linking-in with our work on life cycles, we will be exploring the work of the artist Georgia O'Keefe, who is most famous for her 'zoomed-in' paintings of flowers. We will be exploring the use of colour, shape and line in our work, as well as developing our ability to mix colours. We will then use close observation to create our own final pieces.

## Maths

We will start the term by developing our understanding of shape, building (and naming) 3d shapes, matching them to 2d representations and using them to solve problems. After that, we will explore reflection and translation, working out what shapes will look like in a mirror or after they have been moved around coordinate grids. Later in the term, we will return to the topic of angles, developing our ability to measure, plot, name and calculate angles. Finally, we will return to our key calculation strategies, revising the use of written methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division and using these to solve increasingly complex problems.

## 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 : Leaders in religious communities  
We will be learning about the roles and responsibilities of leaders in different religions, comparing their daily lives and the way they lead their faith communities.

## 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](http://www.sportengland.org/jointhemovement)

## Computing

- There are loads of apps for making stop-motion animations on phones and tablets, and these can be great fun to try out at home. Stop Motion Studio is a good (free) place to start - with a bit of plasticine you can make great movies!

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

Investigate the work of Georgia O'Keefe online and have a go at making pictures in her style - there's an introduction to the artist and her work on the Tate Museum site at [www.tate.org.uk/kids/explore/who-is/who-georgia-okeeffe](http://www.tate.org.uk/kids/explore/who-is/who-georgia-okeeffe) which is followed by lots of project ideas at [www.tate.org.uk/kids/make/paint-draw](http://www.tate.org.uk/kids/make/paint-draw)

## 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](http://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/](http://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](http://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 as often as possible and talk to them about what's going on in their book.
- 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](http://www.bedwell.herts.sch.uk/learning/spelling_strategies.pdf)
- We're working on 'Warning Stories' which are all about children ignoring warnings given by adults. Of course, we'd never do this ourselves, but imagining what might happen would be a great way to get into the spirit of these stories...

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