

## 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

Building on what we've already learnt this year, we will continue to develop our programming skills, using the Scratch platform (and logical thinking). Using ready-made 'blocks' of code and *if, or* and *forever* loops we will create interactive quizzes.



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

# ACCIDENTAL ALIENS!

RABBITS - SUMMER 2024

## English

Our next fiction topic focuses on Science Fiction stories, so expect our writing to be full of aliens, robots, space ships and time travellers! We will be exploring different ways that feelings are shown in writing, including through description and the use of emotive language. We will continue to develop our use of speech, punctuating it correctly and using short bursts of dialogue to show what characters are thinking or to move the plot forward. We will also be developing our use of short sentences to add drama and tension. In our reading lessons, meanwhile, we will be developing our predicting, summarising and detective skills, looking for those key clues that show us how characters feel and what they are likely to do next.

## Science

### Forces and Magnets

We will be exploring different types of forces, including pushes, pulls, gravity and friction, and thinking about the way that these affect the way that objects move in different situations. We will design and carry out fair tests to see which materials create the most friction, and to discover which materials stick to magnets. We will also investigate different ways in which we can measure forces.

## The Arts

Linked to our geography topic, we will be constructing 3d models of the water cycle, including clouds, rivers, oceans and mountains. We will think carefully about the materials we choose and experiment with different ways of joining them. We will also be learning to sew, thread a needle and follow a simple pattern to create cross-stich designs.

## Maths

Our main focus at the start of term will be on multiplication and division strategies. We will start by revising strategies to  $\times$  and  $\div$  by 10, 100 and 1000, and will then learn to use formal written methods to multiply and divide 2-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers (solving calculations like  $34 \times 4$  or  $84 \div 6$ ). Later in the term we will be returning to the topic of time, recognising how days, weeks, months and years are linked and then learning to read and write the times shown on analogue clocks (with hands). Throughout the term, we will also continue to practice and learn our tables facts, aiming to complete our Star ( $\times 2$ ,  $\times 5$  and  $\times 10$  tables) and Superstar ( $\times 3$ ,  $\times 4$  and  $\times 6$  tables) by the time we start Year 4.

## Humanities

Geography : Water  
Water is all around us and vital to every type of life, and in this topic we will be learning about the way that the Water Cycle means that it is constantly being reused and recycled. We will locate the world's major oceans, seas and rivers on a variety of maps, and discuss the difference between fresh water and sea water (and why it matters). We will also investigate the impact of water on environments, both shaping landscapes and effecting the growth of many towns and cities.

### RE: Hinduism

We will continue to explore the Hindu faith and its key beliefs. In particular, we will be considering the role of the Brahman, the supreme God who is believed to be everywhere and in everything.

## 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

- You can have a go at coding in Scratch by heading to [scratch.mit.edu](http://scratch.mit.edu) or downloading the Scratch app. There are loads and loads of tutorials, ideas and examples of other people's work available on the Scratch site.



## 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.
- 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)
- Our topic is a great excuse to watch lots of science fiction films and TV shows, and then to compare them to the stories we've read in class. While you're there, try collecting lots of great language to describe the strange planets and creatures that turn up on screen...

Ideas for supporting learning at home:



## Science

- Investigate what magnets stick to - fridge magnets work fine, and you can investigate lots of different materials around the house. Try different metals and help your child discover that magnets only stick to some of them (mostly iron and steel).
- There are lessons to support our science topic available at: [www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/znmmn39/articles/zhj9r2p](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/znmmn39/articles/zhj9r2p)

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## The Arts

Have a go at making your own water cycle model - it could be scientific, artistic, 2d, 3d, tiny or huge! Try these sites to get started:

- [www.sciencebuddies.org/stem-activities/water-cycle-in-bag](http://www.sciencebuddies.org/stem-activities/water-cycle-in-bag)
- [thewaterproject.org/resources/lesson-plans/create-a-mini-water-cycle](http://thewaterproject.org/resources/lesson-plans/create-a-mini-water-cycle)
- [www.science-sparks.com/make-a-water-cycle/](http://www.science-sparks.com/make-a-water-cycle/)

## Maths

So much of what we do in class depends on the recall of tables facts, so it would be brilliant if you could work on these at home. 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

- We're disappointingly short on big rivers in our part of Hertfordshire, so if the opportunity arrives for a visit to an interesting lake or riverside (on the way back from a day out or just for a Sunday afternoon walk), that'd be great - we'd love to hear about it (and share some photos) in class.
- Learning where the world's water can be found is a really important part of this topic, so break out a map and track down the Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Arctic and Southern Oceans - and for bonus points see how many famous rivers you can find, too.
- There are more resources to support the teaching of this topic on the Oak National Academy site at [classroom.thenationalacademy/units/water-weather-and-climate-4454](http://classroom.thenationalacademy/units/water-weather-and-climate-4454)