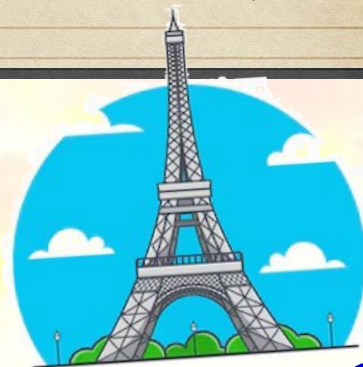
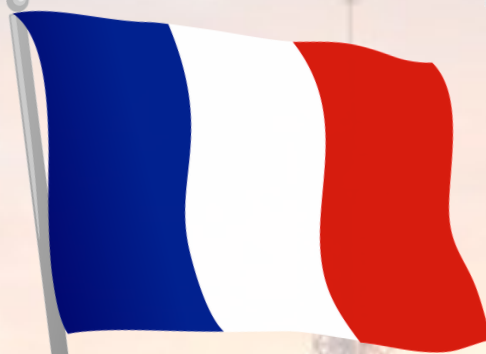


## PE

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 games.



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

# FABULOUS FRANCE!

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## English

Our next writing unit will see us creating our own adventure stories, using *The Girl Who Stole an Elephant* by Nizrana Farook as our core text. We will use this fantastic story to inspire our own character and setting descriptions, developing our use of sentences of different length to vary rhythm and engage the reader. We will then explore the plot structure, identifying how the author has used lots of 'rise and fall' elements to make the adventure particularly exciting. Finally, we will use all of these skills to write adventure stories of our own.

After that, we will try to squeeze in a quick poetry unit before the end of term, using *Marshmallow Clouds* by Ted Kooser as our core text.

## 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

In DT, we will be learning to use the power of air to make things move! We will discover how to build pneumatic systems, where air is pumped through tubes in order to make something move. We will then incorporate this idea into toy and mascot designs, so that rockets take off, players kick balls or characters can leap out of a box!

## Maths

We've got lots of topics to pack into the last few weeks of the year. First up is time, where we'll be developing our understanding of 24 time, checking we can all read analogue clocks accurately and developing our problem solving skills. After that it's statistics, where we'll revise our understanding of bar charts and then move on to reading and interpreting line graphs. Then it's on to negative numbers, using the context of temperature to help us to understand that 0 isn't always the lowest you can go... Finally, we'll be returning to shape, identifying acute and obtuse angles, learning about different types of triangles and plotting coordinates. Along the way, we'll also continue to practice tables facts every day.

## Humanities

History: Stone Age to Iron Age  
We will continue to explore the technological changes that occurred across the Bronze and Iron Ages, which (slowly) changed ways of life and introduced new clothes, homes, weapons and jobs. All of this will help us to make the most of our trip to Celtic Harmony Camp in June, when we'll get to experience a taste of Iron Age life!

### Geography: Fabulous France!

We will begin by locating France on a variety of maps, atlases and globes, and will use this understanding to identify reasons why France is important to the UK. We will use maps, photos and videos to explore a range of environments and climate zones within the country, and will compare life in France with that in the UK.

## 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.

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)

## The Arts

You can find out more about pneumatic systems and how they work on the BBC Bitesize site at [www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zt9b8p3](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zt9b8p3). Alternatively, (if you're feeling super keen), there are really well set-out ideas for models and projects at [www.instructables.com/Simple-Pneumatic-Machine/](http://www.instructables.com/Simple-Pneumatic-Machine/)

## 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

- Archaeologists have found a surprising amount of relics from the Stone Age and Bronze Age in our local area, and you can find examples in Hitchin museum. Go to their website at [www.northhertsmuseum.org](http://www.northhertsmuseum.org) to find out more about visiting.
- In geography, we will be learning all about France, so this would be a great opportunity for any family members who have visited the country to share their experiences. What did they see, do, eat and drink? How similar or different was it to the UK? Has anyone seen the Alps, visited the Louvre or been up the Eiffel Tower?
- It was great to see so many of you at our French Café last month, so keep building those language skills together!

## 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)
- We will be doing lots of work on adventure stories this term, so this is a great opportunity to share some of your favourites at home - these might be novels, comics, movies or TV shows; these will all provide great inspiration for our writing over the coming weeks.



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