



During this term, our theme is:
The Maya Civilisation
Below are the areas that we are covering this half term



Curriculum Area	Areas to be taught in school	Possible activities to be done at home
English	This half term, we will be reading a great text for Y6 - <i>The Boy at the Back of the Class</i> by Onjali Q. Rauf. This is a story of friendship, hope, humour and the importance of kindness, told from a unique perspective of a young refugee. This exceptional book, which we are sure the children will love, will drive our reading and writing the first part of the half term.	Encourage your child to read for pleasure at home and to share what they have read with the class. They may also like to visit the library to read other books along similar themes or by other new children's authors. Any wider reading would be great to capture in some form, possibly a written review, photograph or poster.
History 'What Made the Maya Amaizing?'	We will be exploring the ancient Maya civilisation, learning who the ancient Maya people were, and where and when they lived. We will also be finding out about the religious beliefs and rituals of the ancient Maya people and important inventions during this period in history – including the discovery of chocolate!	As part of this topic we will be learning about the Maya calendar system. See if you can find out about one of the calendars in more detail. You could also produce a diagram or model to demonstrate how it works. We will be closely examining people who are significant to the Maya civilisation. Why not see what you can find out about Frederick Catherwood or John Lloyd Stephens and how they link to our exciting topic?
Physical Education Please ensure your child comes to school appropriately dressed for PE on PE days (Class 13 – Thursday and Friday) (Class 14 Wednesday and Friday)	We will be learning and applying the rules of netball this half term. We will develop a range of skills needed to play the game over each session, before combining these skills to enable us to play full matches. As well as this, we will be completing a variety of sports hall athletics activities.	You could also research a ball game played during the Maya period called 'Pok-a Tok' – an unusual game where players were only allowed to use their heads, shoulders, elbows, wrists and hips to get a ball through a hoop high off the ground!
Art	This half term we will be completing a whole school art project based on the picture book 'The Rules of Summer' written and illustrated by Shaun Tan. The illustrations from this book will be used as a stimulus to encourage the children to reflect on current events, build relationships and help them connect to our school community.	Shaun Tan is an Australian artist, writer and film maker. He has written and illustrated many other books such as 'The Red Tree' and 'The Arrival'. Why don't you have a look at one of these at home and produce some art work based on one of his paintings?
	We will be investigating living things, researching the history of classification and famous scientists linked to	Research an area of the natural world your child is particularly interested in. They can present this knowledge in any form of

Science 'How do we Classify Living Things?'	this. We will be developing our understanding of how micro-organisms, plants and animals can be divided into groups, according to their common characteristics. We will also be devising our own classification keys to see if we can invent systems as good as the scientists we study. As part of our outdoor learning this half term we will be investigating what lives in our school grounds.	their choice and bring in to school to share with the rest of the class. See if they can produce a fascinating fact file about an unusual species or their favourite animal. We will be studying famous scientists related to our science topic, including Carl Linneaus and Libbie Hyman. Can you complete some research and find out what they are most famous for doing?
Religious Education	We will be looking at the theme of Humanism, finding out what this means, exploring influential humanist thinkers and discussing their main beliefs.	Encourage conversations at home about the subject. Share your own views honestly and discuss the importance of respecting the beliefs of others.
Computing	This half term we will be continuing to develop our skills in writing our own algorithms as well as editing and debugging existing codes. New skills will be introduced to structure code and animate characters and scenes, gradually building to create a short animated story.	You can practise developing your skills at computer coding at home using Scratch Online: https://scratch.mit.edu/ . Have a go and see what you can create – we would love to see what you have done at home!
French	We will be learning 'All About France' - from its main cities to its famous French people and landmarks. The children will use key vocabulary related to France and in particular to Paris.	Practise using the French vocabulary learnt in school at home. Can you teach anyone any new French words or phrases? Find out about a famous French person and create a fact file on this person to share in class.
Music	This half term's music is all based around the theme of 'Happy'. We will be listening to, singing, appraising and comparing different genres of music, from pop and country to soul and soft rock!	Research your favourite genre of music. Listen to a range of different types and see what you prefer. You may discover something new!
Relationships Education	Our aim through our Relationships Education curriculum is instil a sense of school belonging again, following a long break from school. All children need an adult who will listen to them and help them make sense of recent events. This will be achieved through a range of fun and interactive activities.	Our first week back together will focus on Reconnecting as a class, made up of lots of interesting and diverse individuals. With a focus on inclusion, we will play a series of 'icebreaker' and 'getting to know you' games and activities which aim to help children to feel part of the bigger picture and achieve a sense of belonging. Ask your children to play some of the fun games at home with you to show you what they have been doing.



During this term our theme is
'Why are The Americas Awesome?'



Curriculum Area	Areas to be taught in school	Possible activities to be done at home
English	This half term, we will be reading a text belonging to the horror genre – ‘Room 13’ by Robert Swindell. This is a great story about a class of school children who go on a residential to Whitby and stay in The Crow’s Nest Hotel. As well as being a bit spooky and creepy, it also has elements of friendship and teamwork. We are sure the children will love reading it! Additionally, as part of our outdoor learning, we will be writing a poem about the trees in the school grounds.	Encourage your child to read for pleasure at home and to share what they have read with the class. They may also like to visit the library to read other books along similar themes or by other new children’s authors. Every child in school has now had their Accelerated Reader home logins re-issued. Please encourage your child to log on at home and you are also able to review their performance and scores.
Geography ‘Why are The Americas Awesome?’	In this unit about the Amazing Americas, the children will first find out about the continents of North and South America and the countries that form them. They will also look in more detail at some of the contrasting regions of the Americas: finding out about the landscape, climate and locations of each area.	You could research an animal indigenous to one of the North American regions studied and prepare a fact file about it. If you love art and design, why don’t you consider the design of a Native American totem pole and create your own version to represent yourself?
Science ‘What can we Learn about Animals including Humans?’	We will build on our knowledge and understanding of different systems within the body such as the circulatory system. We will explore how a healthy lifestyle supports the body to function and how different types of drugs affect the body.	Have a go at making a circulatory system paper model to share in class: Create your model of the circulatory system by connecting the different parts together and using red and blue string or wool to represent the blood vessels. Our ‘significant scientist’ this half term is Alexander Fleming. Can you complete some research and find out what they are most famous for doing?
Religious Education	Leading up to Christmas, we will be exploring the traditions associated with Christmas and explaining the key truth within both versions of The Christmas Story in the Gospels.	Create a book for younger children which reveals The Christmas Story as recorded in the Bible. You can research Christmas customs and traditions of either yourself or someone else you know.

<p>Physical Education</p> <p>Please ensure your child comes to school appropriately dressed for PE on PE days (Class 13 – Tuesday and Thursday) (Class 14 Tuesday and Wednesday)</p>	<p>In our outdoor PE lessons, we will be learning and applying the rules of football this half term. We will develop a range of skills needed to play the game over each session, before combining these skills to enable us to play full matches. As well as this, we will be completing gymnastics lessons weekly during our indoor session.</p>	<p>Can you ask your child to replicate a PE lesson warm-up that we do at the start of each PE lesson? During this half term, why not complete a Yoga session or two using https://www.cosmickids.com/ There is a really thematic Halloween Yoga Workout as well as some calming and mindfulness activities – enjoy!</p>
<p>Computing</p>	<p>This half term we will be using a new computer software programme called ‘Kodu’ which we are excited to share with the children. We will follow teacher-led tutorials initially, then once confident, the children will be able to programme their own games and build vast and unique virtual worlds.</p>	<p>Kodu is a new visual programming language made specifically for creating games. It is designed to be accessible for children and enjoyable for anyone. Kodu for the PC is available to download for free. You can also get it on Xbox 360. Have a go at creating your own game at home.</p>
<p>French</p>	<p>We will be continuing to learn ‘All About France’ - from its main cities to its famous French people and landmarks. The children will use key vocabulary related to France and in particular to Paris.</p>	<p>Practise using the French vocabulary learnt in school at home. Can you teach anyone any new French words or phrases? Find out about a famous French person and create a fact file on this person to share in class.</p>
<p>Music</p>	<p>This half term’s music is all based around the theme of Classroom Jazz. We will be listening to, singing, appraising and comparing different jazz music throughout the ages!</p>	<p>Listen to a variety of jazz music at home. Can you discover a particular song or artist that you really like? You can share this in class for all of us to enjoy!</p>
<p>Design Technology</p>	<p>The children will be making felt phone cases this half term – great presents for Christmas! They will learn how to make a paper template and then use different stitching techniques to create their case, before adding the finishing touches.</p>	<p>Think about who you want to make your case for. You will need to take accurate measurements of the phone so you can make the correct sized case. Write these down and bring them into school to use.</p>
<p>Relationships Education</p>	<p>What is meant by a healthy lifestyle? We will be discussing key factors around living a healthy lifestyle, including diet, exercise and hygiene.</p>	<p>Create an advertising campaign for younger children around importance of eating healthily and being active in order to live a longer life.</p>