

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 continue to develop our programming skills, using the Scratch platform (and logical thinking). Using ready-made 'blocks' of code and *if*, *or* and *forever* loop we will create stories and simple games, which we will then test, evaluate and de-bug.

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



INVADERS!

BADGERS - SUMMER 2023

Science

Sorting and grouping living things
We will be investigating the way that living things can be grouped - in particular by what they eat, by where they live and by their family (fish, reptiles, mammals etc.) We will use classification keys to sort and identify living things in the world around us and food chains to show how predators and prey are linked. We will also be thinking about the effect that humans have on our environment.

The Arts

We will be working with clay this term, using a range of techniques to create pots. These will include coil pots, thumb pots and the use of slips to join sections together (for instance to add handles or decoration). We will then draw upon all of these skills to make our own pots, using themes from our history and English work to inspire our designs.

Maths

We will be developing our understanding of division, moving from practical methods for sharing things out to visual strategies (using drawings) and then simple written methods. This will also tie-in with our continued work on developing our times table knowledge, as Year 4 get ready for their Multiplication Tables Check in June. After that, we will be returning to fractions, securing our understanding of unit fractions (which all have a '1' on top) and extending into non-unit fractions (all the other fractions that don't have a '1' on top). We will find fractions of shapes and simple amounts, and will begin to recognise equivalent fractions (groups of fractions that have the same value, like $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{2}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{6}$).

Humanities

History : Anglo-Saxons
We will continue to develop our understanding of life in Anglo-Saxon Britain. We will be learning more about the areas where the first Anglo-Saxons settled and investigating their culture, food, homes and beliefs. We will explore the impact their arrival had, spreading Christianity and the creating the first English nation. Throughout the topic, we will be using images of ancient artefacts (from coins and small fragments of pottery to huge sites like Sutton Hoo) to support our learning and to help us develop the ability to think like a historian.

RE : Prayer and Worship

We will be learning about the role of prayer and worship in Christianity, and comparing this with other religions that we know about.

English

This half-term we will be investigating explanation texts. We will discuss the purpose of explanations (showing how or why something works) and identify their key features. We will look at lots of different explanations, comparing the way they are organised and using them to extend our knowledge of technical vocabulary. We will then hone-in on a model text, *How Pirates Really Work*, and use this to inspire our own writing. We will be working hard to develop our use of causal conjunctions (like *so*, *therefore* and *because*) and adverbials of time to link ideas together, and to use present tense correctly in our independent writing. Throughout the term we will continue to practice our spelling, working on adding the prefix *ir-* and the suffix *-ion* to root words.

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

- You can have a go at coding in Scratch by heading to 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:



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Science

- Our work on grouping animals relies on us having lots of science knowledge, so talk about creatures you see when you're out and about - what do they eat? Where do they live? What other living things are they similar to? Don't worry if this involves some 'let's Google that when we get home' - realising that it's OK not to know everything is a Learning Superhero skill!

The Arts

Make stuff! Clay might be a bit ambitious (and messy) for art projects at home, but you can practice lots of similar skills with other malleable materials (like playdoh and plasticine) or junk-model your own pirate ships or costumes. For ideas and inspiration, the fantastic Tate Kids site is a great place to start - head to www.tate.org.uk/kids/make

Maths

As always, a great deal of what we do relies on our 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.

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
- We're focussing on explanations, so keep a look out for any explanation texts you come across over the coming few weeks - science programmes and news reports do this all the time, but "Why I haven't done my homework" or "Why Spurs lost" might be fun examples to explore!

Humanities

- If you're looking for an afternoon out, many of our local museums have Anglo-Saxon finds and relics amongst their collections - including Stevenage, Hertford and Ware Museums (all of which are free to enter). Check their websites for more details on visiting.
- For a bigger day out, the British Museum in London has an impressive collection of Anglo-Saxon artefacts, including the Sutton Hoo finds that we'll be learning about in class. Again, this is free to enter (but it's a good idea to book tickets in advance).
- There are more resources to support the teaching of this topic on the BBC Bitesize history site at: www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zxsbcdm