

PE

We will be developing our basketball skills over the next few weeks, improving our dribbling, passing and shooting technique, as well as learning to mark an opponent. We will also have swimming lessons every Tuesday morning.

Computing

We will be starting to use clever bits of kit called Micro:bits, which can be programmed to play games, solve problems and send messages. We will be using the MakeCode platform to write simple code, which we will adapt, explore and extend to complete tasks.

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

Science

Space!

We will be learning about the Earth, Sun, Moon and our place in the solar system. We will explore the way the Earth both revolves on its axis and orbits the sun, and the way that these movements create day, night, seasons and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky. We will also investigate how ideas about the solar system have changed over time.

The Arts

We will be carrying out an artist study over the next few weeks, exploring the work of the sculptor Henry Moore. We will look carefully at some of the artworks he created, thinking about the way they make us feel and investigating how his experiences in World Wars 1 and 2 impacted on his work. We will finish by creating sculptures of our own.

Maths

We will begin the half-term by consolidating our understanding of written strategies for multiplication, division, addition and subtraction, and will begin to extend these to calculations involving decimals. After that, we will move on to explore fractions. We will use diagrams, models and practical tasks to ensure we really understand what a range of fractions mean and 'look like', and will then use these models to help us to compare and order mixed groups of fractions. From there, we will learn to add, subtract and multiply fractions, before beginning to explore mixed numbers and improper fractions (fractions worth more than 1). Finally we will link fractions to their decimal equivalents.

Humanities

Brazil

We will be continue to explore the geography, people, cities and culture of Brazil, using photos, reports and video clips to help us to identify ways in which Brazil is similar and different to the UK. We will also learn about the huge range of environments found across the country, from massive cities to coastal regions, mountain ranges, farmland and rainforests. Finally, we will investigate Brazilian clothing, sport, music and food, tying in with our work in art and DT.

RE

As we move towards Christmas, we will be revisiting the story of the nativity and exploring the question, "Why doesn't Christianity always look the same?"

English

We will start the half-term by returning to fiction writing, using a gorgeous book called *Cloud Tea Monkeys* by Mal Peet and Elspeth Graham as our core text. We will be investigating setting description and looking at the way authors combine dialogue and description in writing, before pulling together all of our skills to create, draft, edit and present stories of our own.

After that, we will be exploring biographies, using *Fantastically Great Women who Changed the World* by Kate Pankhurst as our core text. We will be developing our use of paragraphs and subheadings to organise information, and using brackets to add extra detail.



BRAZIL!

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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

- All of the tasks we've worked on in class are available at microbit.org. There are links to the MakeCode editor we've been using, loads of ideas in the projects library and lots more information about these clever devices.



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
- Later in the term we will be exploring biographies, so look out for opportunities to read about people who are important to you and your family - they could be celebrities, sportspeople, leaders from history or scientists and inventors who changed the world.

Science

- There are lessons online to support our next topic at: www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zkbbkqt
- Lots of Professor Brian Cox's fantastic TV programmes about space are available on www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer - his series on The Planets is full of solar system facts, and offers a great introduction for budding scientists.

Ideas for supporting learning at home:



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The Arts

There's lots of information on Henry Moore's life and work (plus ideas for making art in his style) on the fantastic Tate Kids website at www.tate.org.uk/kids/artists/who-henry-moore

The Henry Moore Studios and Garden are about a 40 minute drive from here - find out more about visiting at henry-moore.org

Maths

All of the maths we're doing this term is dependent on quick recall of tables facts, so it would be brilliant if you could work on this. 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

- If anyone in your family has ever been to Brazil (or if you know anyone who lives there), it would be great to share their experiences. If not, then the BBC Bitesize site at www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zht4r2p is a good place to start.
- If you're a football fan, find out which famous players come from Brazil and see if you can find the places where they were born or the stadiums which they have played in on a map. Are there any other famous Brazilians you know?
- There are loads of great documentaries on the amazing landscape and wildlife found in Brazil, including lots of David Attenborough programmes which can be found on the BBC iPlayer.