

English

Reading.

Our class reader this term will be 'Holes' by Louis Sachar as this links in well with our History topic. We shall be discussing plots and characters as well as examining the technique of 'time-slip' within novels. We shall also study 'The Highwayman', a classic poem by Alfred Noyes.

We will continue to read a variety of shorter texts for meaning, practising and developing our skills at answering comprehension questions.

Writing.

We shall look at the features of newspaper reports and biographies, analysing and evaluating them so that we can write our own.

Using our classic poem we will revisit and extend our work on figurative language and how it affects the reader.

In the second half of the term we will be learning how to write a balanced discussion by considering the issue of capital punishment.

Spelling.

We will continue to learn the target Year 5 and 6 words and spelling rules.

Grammar.

We shall learn to: identify and use determiners, use the subjunctive form, use colons and semi-colons and to extend sentences by adding detail to description.

Science

Knowledge.

- We will recap work completed on fossils and research the palaeontologist Mary Anning.
- We will look at how characteristics are passed from parents to their offspring, looking at our own families initially.
- We will look at Charles Darwin's theory of evolution.

Working scientifically.

- We will observe and raise questions about animals and how they are adapted.
- We will compare how living things may have adapted to different conditions.

Skills.

- We will use our observation skills and a range of evidence to justify our ideas and draw conclusions.

Maths

Number.

This term we shall be practising our multiplication, division, addition and subtraction skills, including decimal numbers and fractions. This is so that we will be ready for the arithmetic SATs test, as well as using these skills to solve problems across the curriculum.

We shall be applying our knowledge of place value by using multiplication and division by 10, 100 and 1000 to convert units of measure such as length, mass and capacity.

So that we know the order of operations in more complex calculations, we will be introduced to the 'BODMAS' system.

Other areas.

We shall extend the work done on area last term by learning how to calculate the areas of triangles and parallelograms.

Our work on co-ordinates will be revisited and extended to include reflection and translation. Volume will be introduced.

**Our Theme is
Crime and Punishment**

Learning Web—core subjects

Ways You can help at home.....

- Continue to support your child's reading by asking questions about characters, plots and the author's use of language and vocabulary.
- Help your child to check their homework and make sure that they are using the study guides provided when unsure.
- Make sure that your child has their home/school book signed on Friday mornings and that homework is handed in on time.
- Ensure that P.E. Kits are in school when needed.

R.E.

We will be looking at making lifelong decisions about our faiths, focusing on Confirmation (Christianity) and Bar Mitzvah (Judaism).

P.S.H.E.

We shall revisit online safety, sharing our experiences and discussing ways to stay safe. Using our topic we will work on how to discuss issues with those who hold opinions that differ from our own. We shall also consider the political mechanisms for change in society.

Humanities.

Our topic for this term is 'Crime and Punishment Through the Ages'. During this topic we will be looking at Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot, Dick Turpin, the Luddites and the Derek Bentley case. We shall:

- Develop an understanding of crime at different points in our history—who defines it and decides upon punishment
- Use and evaluate a range of resources
- Consider fact and opinion, realising that an event can be interpreted in different ways according to viewpoint
- Ask and answer questions through research
- Understand and use specific vocabulary such as parliament, civilisation, crime, power.

P.E.

P.E. Lessons will be delivered by our qualified and experienced sports coaches and will include some gymnastic work indoors and some outside activities when the weather permits.

Our Theme is Crime and Punishment

I.C.T.

We will be using Scratch software to create a sequence of instructions to design an interactive program. Throughout this topic, we will be developing our problem solving skills as we edit and refine our scripts. We will be expected to work as independently as possible, therefore referring to the software's help files to support and develop our computing skills. Finally, we will evaluate our own work and have the opportunity to play our peers' games.

Art and Design.

Art this term will take place during a dedicated 'Art Week' when we shall study the work of Edgar Degas. This nicely extends our Autumn work on the proportions of the human body—we shall use sketching and chalk pastels to produce some dancers in the style of Degas. Parents will be invited to join us for an afternoon during this week, helping and supporting our work and gaining an insight into school life.

Music.

This term we will be adding extra notes to our recorder repertoire. We shall learn about pitch and duration and how this looks on the standard stave. We will be learning pieces called 'Gavotte' and 'London's burning'.

French.

None this term.