



Upper Key Stage 2  
Autumn 1 – The Americas!

<p><b>English</b> This half term we will be exploring the book 'The Rainplayer' by David Wisniewski. We will use this to develop our understanding of sentence structures and build a wider bank of exciting vocabulary. Finally, we will use this text to write our own version of the story, instructions and in-depth character descriptions.</p>	<p><b>Science</b> In science, we will be developing our understanding of changes and properties of materials. We will do this by carrying out a range of experiments, enhancing our scientific enquiry skills and understanding, as well as developing our knowledge of this area.</p>	<p><b>P.E.</b> Children will be working on their physical and cognitive skills through a range of coordination and balance based activities. They will then be using and applying these skills in sports based scenarios with a focus on tag rugby, netball and basketball. Acer and Cedar class will be participating in swimming lessons.</p>
<p><b>Art</b> Within art, we will focus on the works of Deborah Shapiro, unpicking her use of collage within her designs. The children will create art depicting everyday objects in nature using the style of Shapiro.</p>	<p><b>Computing</b> Children will develop their coding skills, enabling them to write and debug a code for a program whilst broadening their understanding of computing terminology. In addition to this, we will be furthering their understanding of online safety through questioning the validity of digital content, understanding the importance of passwords and how to make them secure, and how some digital images are altered.</p>	<p><b>R.E.</b> During this unit, the children will investigate how far Sikhs will go for his/her religion. We will be learning about what is important to Sikhs and the importance of the Langar as well as looking at pilgrimages to The Golden Temple.</p>
<p><b>Music</b> All the learning is focused around one song: <i>Livin' On A Prayer</i> by Bon Jovi. As well as learning to sing, play, improvise and compose with this song, children will listen and appraise other classic rock songs. The material presents an integrated approach to music where games, the dimensions of music (pulse, rhythm, pitch etc), singing and playing instruments are all linked.</p>	<p><b>PSHE</b> Children will discuss resilience and explore their place in the world and what their rights and responsibilities are on a local, national and global scale.</p>	<p><b>History</b> In this unit pupils will explore the Mayans: their inventions, communication systems, number systems. We will be exploring what we can learn about them from the evidence they have left behind and researching how and why civilisation ended.</p>
<p><b>Maths</b> This term will be focusing on number and place value with a particular emphasis on numbers to 1,000,000 (Year 5) and 10,000,000 (Year 6). We will be using a range of representations to show, compare and order numbers as well as applying this knowledge to solve number and practical problems using these ideas.</p>		
<p><b>Boom Reader:</b> Children are expected to read 3 times per week and for this to be recorded using Boom Reader. Once your child is confident with reading the book, they will need to quiz using Accelerated Reader <u>in school</u>. The children are allowed to choose a reading booking within their ZPD range – this will be reviewed termly.</p>		
<p><b>TTRockstars:</b> Alongside regular reading, children should be practising their times tables using the TTRockstars website. Games last between 1 to 5 minutes. If your child does not know their login, please contact your class teacher. Times tables is a crucial skill which underpins a large proportion of the maths curriculum.</p>		
<p><b>Homework:</b> Maths and English homework will be set alternating Fridays. These will be linked to the learning objectives/fluency sessions of the week. Homework should be returned the <u>following Wednesday</u>.</p>		
<p><b>P.E.</b> P.E. kit should be in school Monday morning and will be taken home on Friday afternoon. Hair longer than shoulder length needs to be tied up. Earrings should be removed or taped (tape should be kept in their bag or drawer). All children should participate in lessons with a positive and sportsmanlike approach. If your child leaves school in their PE kit, please could this be returned the next day.</p>		

**Swimming (Acer and Cedar only)** – Swimming lessons will commence on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September. Please ensure your child has their correct swimming kit (including hats) in a named bag. There will be **no** swimming lessons on 28<sup>th</sup> September

***Forest Schools (Redwood only):***

Children will need a change of clothes for forest schools. For health and safety reasons, this must include: a long sleeve top, long trousers and trainers/wellies. These sessions will take place in all weather, so they should be prepared to get wet, muddy and dirty. Redwood will have forests school on a Friday afternoon. As per Mrs Earl's letter, if the children do not have the correct clothing, they will not be able to participate and will spend the session in a parallel class.