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| **Upper Key Stage 2** **Autumn 1 – The Americas!** |
| ***English*** This half term, we will be exploring the book ‘The Explorer’ by Katherine Rundell. We will use this to develop our understanding of sentence structures and build a wider bank of exciting vocabulary. Finally, we will write additional chapters to this story in the style of an adventure story.  | ***Science*** 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.E.***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.  |
| ***Art***Within art, we will focus on the works of Gustav Klimt, unpicking his use of gold and silver and story-telling abilities within his designs. The children will create art depicting emotions using the style of Klimt. | ***Computing*** 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. | ***R.E.*** 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.  |
| ***Music***All the learning is focused around one song: *Livin' On A Prayer* 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. | ***PSHE***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.  | ***History***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. |
| ***Maths***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.  |
| ***Go Read:***Children are expected to read daily with an adult and for this to be recorded using Go Read. Once your child is confident with reading the book, they will need to quiz using Accelerated Reader **in school**. If they score 100%, they will move up a ZPD level. However, if they fail to pass the test, they will move backwards. |
| ***Times Tables Rockstars:***Alongside reading daily, 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.  |
| ***Homework:***Spellings will now be an investigation where children will be asked to find words that link with the week’s spelling rule and then write five of these into accurately punctuated sentences. Spelling homework will be set every Monday and will support the rules being taught that week. Please note there is no longer a spelling test each Friday. However, we will be focusing on the application of these rules in their writing. Spellings need to be returned **every Friday.**Maths homework will be set every Friday to support their times tables and mathematical fluency. These will be linked to the learning objectives/fluency sessions of the week. Maths homework should be returned the **following Friday.**English homework will be set **every Friday** to support children’s SPAG understanding. This will need to be handed in the **following Thursday.** |
| ***P.E.***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. Children need to wear the new P.E. kit uniform. 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.  |
| ***Forest Schools:***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. Acer and Redwood will have forests school on a Thursday afternoon and Cedar class 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.  |