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| **Upper Key Stage 2** **Autumn 2 – The Americas!** |
| ***English*** This half term, we will be exploring the poem ‘The Malfeasance’ by Alan Bold. We will use this to develop our understanding of sentence structures and build a wider bank of exciting vocabulary. We will also be looking at ‘The Rainplayer’ by David Wisniewski, a Maya myth as well as writing a letter to Scrooge.  | ***Geography.***We will be looking at the continent of North America and focusing on the USA looking at human and physical features as well as climate and population. We will also be learning about biomes and the World’s deserts. | ***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 with a focus on tag rugby and basketball. Acer and Cedar classes will still continue their swimming sessions with a focus on learning to swim confidently, competently and efficiently over a distance of 25 metres, using a range of strokes effectively. Some pupils will be learning to perform safe self-rescue on different water-based situations. |
| ***DT***Within DT, we will focus on the foods traditionally associated with America. The children will gain an understanding of safety measures when cooking and safe hygiene practice. | ***Computing*** Children will be looking at the consequences of sharing passwords and how to maintain secure passwords, having a better understanding of the impact of sharing digital content, to understand the advantages and disadvantages of altering images digitally and the reasons for this. We will also be reviewing sources of support when using technology and reviewing our responsibilities towards one another. | ***R.E.*** During this unit on Christianity, the children will be exploring the question – ‘Is the Christmas story true?’ We will be learning to evaluate different accounts of the Christmas story and understand that stories can be true in different ways.  |
| ***Music****W*e are looking at jazz music this term. All our lessons will be based around two songs - *Three Note* Bossa and Five *Note Swing.*We will learn about the interrelated dimensions of music through performing and improvising. | ***PSHE***In our ‘Celebrating Difference’ unit, children will discuss ‘normal’ and the different perceptions of this. They will also identify how being different can affect a person’s life. We will also explain how difference can be a source of conflict as well as a cause for celebration. |  |
| ***Maths***This term, will be focusing on the 4 operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division). We will be developing our skills of short multiplication and short division before moving on to long division. We will finish this unit looking at prime, squared and cubed numbers.  |
| ***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, but if they fail to pass the test, they will move backwards. |
| ***TTRockstars:***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 associated 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 online activities will be linked to the learning objectives/fluency sessions of the week. Maths homework should be returned the **following Thursday.**English homework will be set **every Friday** to support children’s reading and comprehension. We expect these answers to be written in full sentences and 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.  |