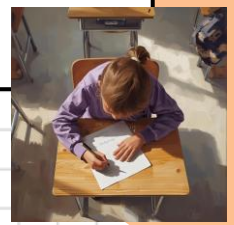
Year 5 Autumn term 2 Curriculum Newsletter





READING

Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo

In *Kensuke's Kingdom* by Michael Morpurgo, we follow the exciting story of Michael, a boy who is washed up on a remote island after falling from his family's boat. There he meets Kensuke, a mysterious man who has been living on the island for many years. The story explores themes of friendship, survival, trust, and respect for nature.

Through reading this novel, children develop key comprehension skills such as predicting, summarising, inferring characters' feelings and motivations, and using evidence from the text to support their ideas. They also discuss the author's language choices and how these create atmosphere and emotion.

DATES AND INFORMATION:

12th Nov – Doughnut sale

17th – 23rd Nov – Book fayre

17th and 18th Nov – Parents evenings

1st Dec – PACT wreath making (7pm to 9pm)

3rd Dec – PACT Elfridges

10th Dec – Christmas Jumper and Dinner day

11th Dec – Mufti Day - PACT Bottle raffle donations

18th Dec – Christmas Party afternoon

18th Dec- Carols on the playground

18th Dec– PACT Bottle sale

PE Days: Wednesday and Thursdays

WRITING

Narrative (Short film) The present
Narrative - The Snowman by Raymond Briggs

In these units, students are exploring narrative writing through ***The Present*** and ***The Snowman*** by Raymond Briggs. They are learning to use **similes**, **subordinating and relative clauses**, and **dialogue** to add depth, detail, and emotion to their stories. By the end, students will create their own engaging narratives inspired by these touching tales.

MATHS

Maths: Multiplication and Division

In this unit, children will begin by developing their understanding of multiples, common multiples, factors and common factors, recognising what they are and how they are found. Following this, children will learn about prime numbers and how they are different to composite numbers. Children will then investigate square and cube numbers. Children will also learn how to multiply and divide by 10, 100 and 1,000 and use this knowledge to multiply and divide by multiples of 10, 100 and 1,000

SCIENCE

Science: Properties of materials

In this science unit, children explore the properties of everyday materials and how these make them useful. They investigate materials based on features such as hardness, solubility, transparency, conductivity, and magnetism. They learn which materials dissolve to form solutions and how to separate mixtures using filtering, sieving, and evaporation. Through practical investigations and fair tests, they discover why materials like wood, metal, and plastic are chosen for particular purposes.



HISTORY



The Ancient Maya Civilisation

This term, pupils will be learning about the fascinating civilisation of the Ancient Maya, exploring their history, society and significant achievements. They will discover how the Maya lived in rainforest city-states, what they ate and how they farmed, as well as learning about their beliefs, gods and religious practices. Children will also investigate Maya writing and number systems, including their hieroglyphs, calendars and mathematical discoveries, making comparisons with other ancient civilisations they have studied. To bring their learning together, pupils will select and explain three important Maya artefacts as part of a creative TV programme script, demonstrating their understanding of why the Ancient Maya remain such an important civilisation in world history.

PSHE

Valuing Difference

In this unit, children learn to recognise and celebrate differences between people, including those related to religion and culture. They discuss how diversity can be positive while understanding that differences can sometimes lead to conflict. The topic also explores the influence of social media, helping children think about how online posts may not always reflect real life and how to use social media safely and responsibly.



WAYS TO HELP AT HOME:

Reading: Encourage your child to read for 15 minutes each day. Ask questions about what they have read to develop their understanding.
Times Tables: Practise times tables regularly, focusing on quick recall and division facts.
Maths: Look for opportunities to practise maths in everyday life, such as calculating change, **telling the time or measuring ingredients.**
Writing: Encourage your child to write a short diary entry, story or description, focusing on accurate punctuation and interesting vocabulary.
Independence: Encourage your child to organise their belongings, pack their school bag and take responsibility for their homework.
A little practice each day makes a big difference!

ART



Painting – Portraits

In this unit, children explore how artists use line, colour, and tone to show emotion, movement, and depth in their work. They experiment with different types of lines and marks to create feeling and focus in their drawings and learn how tone can make artwork look more realistic. Children study how artists express emotion through their work and apply these ideas in their own sketchbooks. They also design and create their own prints, carefully planning their compositions and reflecting on how to improve their final pieces.

HOMEWORK



Homework will be set on **Fridays** and given in the following **Wednesday.**
Reading (5 x 10 mins /week)
Spelling shed (3x 10 mins/week)
TT Rockstars (3x 10 mins/week)
A piece of maths (40 mins per week)

TEXTS COVERED THIS TERM:

