

What am I learning about this half term?

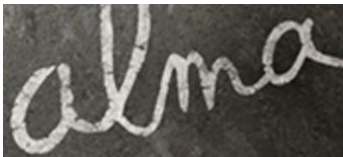
Reading

Although I can't reveal the title of our text just yet (that would ruin all the fun!), I can reveal that Year Five are going to be hunting for clues about this mysterious text to piece together some in-depth predictions, building upon our inference skills. We will be looking carefully at the author's use of language and the impact that this has on us as readers, enriching our range of vocabulary and comparing characters supported by ranges of evidence. Get ready to enter a new world and join the quest for answers...



Writing

I am very eager and excited to see all that you have learnt about in writing in Year Four, so, we are going to begin this year by applying all of the grammar and punctuation skills to remind ourselves how to use them effectively. Grab your pillow to hide behind though as this will be done through recounting a very creepy story indeed, learning how to write with suspense.



Maths

We are beginning our Autumn Terms Maths by exploring Place Value and Number. The children will use their understanding of place value to represent numbers up to one million in a variety of ways: rounding numbers, interpreting negative numbers and delving deeper into Roman numerals. We will also be applying our learning to a range of problem solving and reasoning activities. We will then move our maths learning to the four operations including the order of operations.

Place Value Chart

Millions	Hundred Thousands	Ten Thousands	Thousands	Hundreds	Tens	Ones

Science



We will be using our school grounds (the pond, forest area and herb garden) to learn all about 'Living Things and their Habitats'. We will learn about the fascinating ways that plants reproduce by looking at the journey of pollen grains. We will be comparing lifecycles of different plants and animals and carrying out an experiment about bean growth.

Religious Education

In our Christianity unit, 'What does it mean if God is holy and loving?', the children will be examining what biblical words and technical vocabulary used by believers to describe God adds to a Christian's understanding of God. We will consider what the architecture of Lichfield Cathedral can add to this understanding. Year Five will weigh up how Biblical ideas about love, holiness and forgiveness relate or compare to their own views and the way in which Christians embrace opportunities in their own lives today.



Physical Education



We will be exploring football and handball this half term, learning to perform and combine skills, at speed, with confidence and control. The children will be choosing and applying skills that meet the need of the situation such as keeping possession or moving to get away from an opponent. We will focus on improving teamwork skills, following rules of the game and understanding formations and individual roles.

Art

Our Art unit this half term is all about capturing the movement, colours and shapes of water through drawing. Through this unit, we will be making careful observation drawings of water droplets, and of water in action, using iPads to capture images. We will use different surfaces and textures to alter the appearance of water droplets and create images of our observations. We will then move onto studies of water-related paintings by famous artists that we will evaluate, expressing our likes, dislikes and opinions. Finally, we will use them to inspire our own water creations.



Music



This half term, we are focusing on composition notation where children will learn to improvise their own piece of music, play a melody with reasonable accuracy and perform with confidence and in time with others. They will also compose and play a melody using stave notation and contribute meaningfully to the group performance and composition.

Geography

We are beginning this term by practising our map skills and exploring different types of maps! We will look at their features and purposes and have a go at reading and interpreting them, even drawing our own! We will be looking at four-figure grid references and apply our knowledge of these to locate local places. We will also be investigating ocean current, gyres and the northern and southern hemispheres. The children will also be describing the 'Great Pacific Garbage Patch' and exploring plastic pollution.



History



We are getting in our time machine back-to-the-future style to visit the Vikings. Children will develop their chronological knowledge from previous years and enhance their understanding of this time era. We will consider to what extent the Vikings were successful warriors and compare their success to that of the Romans and the Anglo-Saxons, to discover who really were the best fighters. Throughout the topic, we will also be learning about famous historical figures.

Design Technology

We will be investigating what a frame structure is and where they can be seen working in everyday life. We will be given a design brief for a product that has a practical purpose. Using the skills and knowledge that we have acquired, we will then make individual frame designs and plan the process that we will follow. Then the important part - creating our designs, which will probably be testing our skills of resilience, perseverance and problem-solving. The final stage will be to evaluate our products and consider how we could improve the design and build process.

PSHE



We begin our year as we always do by exploring 'Me in My World'. Through this topic, children will have the opportunity to explore a range of topics: global citizenship, rights, feeling valued, anti-social behaviour and democracy. This will give children the opportunity to really think deeply about and discuss real-life issues that they may face now and in the future.

Computing

This Autumn, the children will be learning about computer systems and networks. They will develop their understanding of how information is transferred between systems and devices. They will explain input, output and process aspects of a variety of different real-world systems. Children will discover how information is found on the World Wide Web, through learning how search engines work and what influences searching, and through comparing different search engines.

