

This half-term, we are learning...

Curriculum Area	Areas to be taught in school	Possible activities to be done at home
English	The children will read the story, 'The Midnight Fox,' by Betsy Byars & will identify the purpose of a narrative. They will recognise & begin to use figurative language & relative clauses to make their writing more interesting. They will also be watching the video, 'The Piano,' & will be further developing their understanding of narratives & figurative language. The children will continue to have daily opportunities to read & will carry out reading comprehension activities daily.	Continue to give your child opportunities to read at home every night.
Maths	Over the half-term, we will be looking at place value, decimal numbers, addition & subtraction. We will also be applying addition skills to calculate perimeter, as well as multiplication skills to calculate area.	Encourage your child to: Make a place value grid & use it to help practise counting in steps of 1,000 & 10,000. Practise times tables; they can use Times Tables Rockstars regularly to help improve their recall of times tables facts.
Science - Physics	In science, the children will learn about Earth & Space, including: the planets in our solar system; why we have day & night and how the moon moves. They will also learn about Margaret Hamilton, who is a significant figure in the history of space exploration. They will be learning outdoors by exploring where the best place in the school grounds would be to install wind turbines.	Watch a sci-fi film (like ET or Star Wars) or maybe even Dr Who. Discuss with your child what science fiction is. What does Earth & Space look like on TV & in the movies? Look at books that have information in them about Earth & Space – discuss what you find or bring your findings into school.
History	We will be learning all about the Shang Dynasty, & answering our main topic question: 'What was the Shang Dynasty?' The children will learn & think about where & when the Shang Dynasty took place, what it was like to live in the Shang Dynasty & about the religious beliefs of the Shang Dynasty.	Research the Shang Dynasty with your child & see if they can find any fun facts to share with the class.
Computing	We will explore how to stay safe online & about digital footprints. We will also be learning how to create games using coding.	Talk to your children about online safety.

Year Group: 5	Class Teachers: Mrs Hennessey & Mr Berriman	Term: Autumn 1, 2021
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RE	We will be learning about The Qur'an & why it is important to Muslims, reading passages from the Qur'an & learning how Muslims use it today. We will also be virtually exploring a mosque & learning more about this place of worship.	Encourage conversations at home about the subject. Discuss the importance of respecting the beliefs of others. You could visit a local church to find out more.
PE	The children will focus on tennis, developing skills such as performing underarm & overarm serves. They will apply these skills in games.	Make sure your child arrives at school in their PE kit on Mondays, so that they can fully participate in all PE activities.
Music	We will explore the question, 'How does music bring us together?' The children will answer this by listening, singing, composing & performing music. By the end of the term, they will have learned a new song & how to play the glockenspiel.	Listen to music at home. Encourage your child to talk about how it makes them feel & what they like & dislike about songs & music.
Art	We will look at & discuss the similarities & differences between some of Sidney Nolan's key works of art. We will recap our knowledge of the colour wheel, & focus on 'tint' & 'shade.' We will create our own Sidney Nolan-inspired piece of artwork.	Research Sidney Nolan & create a biography page about him. You could also re-create a piece of his artwork. You may also wish to recap primary, secondary & tertiary colours.
French	This half-term, the children will focus on the topic of, 'Family.' They will learn how to talk about their families in French.	Challenge your child to talk about the family using the vocabulary learned at school.
PSHE	The children will learn about people who look after them, their family networks & who to go to if they are worried. They will identify their special people (family, friends & carers), what makes them special & how special people should care for one another. The children will learn how to communicate their feelings to others, to recognise how others show feelings & how to respond. They will learn to describe what makes someone a good friend.	Talk with the children at home about their friendships. Discuss what makes a good friend & who their good friends at school are. Remind them who they can speak to if they are worried about something.

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