

Curriculum Newsletter

Chestnut Class

Summer Term



As artists the children will be drawing using pastels and studying the work of African artist Thandiwe Muriu from Kenya. Year 5 will be considering how to create a range of moods in their paintings and year 6 will consider how to blend their own style with their artists, use a wide range of techniques in their work and why they have chosen that particular technique for effect.

As mathematicians, year 5 will be learning about shape, position and direction, decimals, negative numbers, converting units and volume.

Year 6 will be learning about shape, position and direction and consolidating their learning through themed projects.

The children will continue to consolidate their times tables weekly using Times Tables Rock stars and quizzes.



As engineers the children will be creating shell structures using computer aided design. They will develop and use knowledge of nets of cubes and cuboids and, where appropriate, more complex 3D shapes. The children will consider how to construct strong, stiff shell structures and develop ideas through the analysis of existing shell structures and use computer-aided design to model and communicate ideas.

As geographers, the children will be considering the question; Why is Fair Trade fair? The children will be able to describe and explain why the Silk Road was the most important trading route in the history of the world and evaluate and reflect upon some of the changes that occurred because of the movement of people and commodities along it. They will explain why and how countries trade with each other and compare and contrast the range of commodities most commonly imported by the United Kingdom from China. They will understand the terms of international trade and that it is not always fair. They will describe what Fairtrade is and describe the benefits to be gained from Fairtrade certification.



As authors, the children will be studying the text 'Floodlands' by Marcus Sedgwick. The children will immerse in drama, write in role as the different characters showing empathy through their writing, create non-fiction texts, free narrative writing and write instructions. The children will also be learning the grammatical structures required for each genre of writing and a deeper understanding of the different punctuation used. The children will continue to learn their spellings weekly, including words from the statutory lists and practice their handwriting.



As musicians the children will be making digital music using YuStudio (an online digital audio workstation), children will learn to use digital technology to compose a hip-hop track.

The children will also be working on songs for the end of year production. Children will combine their acting, singing and movement skills to work towards an end of term production. Music lessons will primarily focus on singing technique and combining this with movement.



As historians, the children will be considering the question; Why did the Ancient Maya change their way of life? They will be locating the region of the world in which Maya people live and describe what the landscape, climate and natural vegetation of this area is like. The children will identify and explain the occupations of modern Maya people. They will identify the lost jungle cities of Maya and understand the purpose of the ancient Maya city of Chichen Itza. The children will study the system of terraced farming used by the Maya in mountainous areas and explain why this method helped to stop the precious soil being eroded or washed away. The children will investigate artefacts, including stone carvings, hieroglyphs, clay and stone pottery and figurines and ornaments and explain the social and religious importance of the Maya ball game pok-a-tok. The children will understand as to the likely cause of the gradual abandonment of the Maya jungle cities.



As philosophers in our religious studies, the children will be focusing on 'Justice and Freedom' and will be considering the questions; What is freedom? and What is justice? The children will be looking at religious stories of justice/freedom and consider human rights and non-violent protests. In the second half of term the children will be looking at the meaning of Eternity. They will consider the meaning of eternity, immortality and the concept of heaven. The children will also learn about emancipation and the view of humanists.



In our PHSE lessons we will use SCARF resources and will focus on the unit 'Being my best' where the children will consider how to stay fit and well and will look at risk, basic first aid and mental health. In the second half of term the children will be focusing on the unit 'Growing and Changing' and will be looking at the effects of social media, changing bodies and puberty and how babies are conceived.



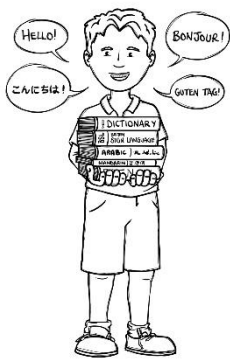
As Athletes the children will be working on their physical skills the first half term using the Real PE programme. They will focus on jumping and landing as well as balance and coordination. These skills will be used to develop stamina for circuit training activities.

In the second half of term the children will be using the Real PE programme to work on their skills of health and fitness and the focus will be around the development and application of sending and receiving a ball and the modification of non-traditional games, sports and healthy competition. The children will also be focussing on outdoor adventurous activities in and around school and the wider community.

As scientists the children will be learning about 'Evolution and Inheritance' and will cover adaptation, inheritance and the theory of evolution and study some aspects of Darwin's work.

In the second half of the term, the children will be studying 'Living things and their habitats' and in particular consider animal life cycles and reproduction, plant reproduction, micro-organisms and classification. The children will use different methods of learning including experimentation, investigation, and research methods.





As linguists, the children will be revising the grammatical constructs of Latin and considering the derivations of the English language. For example, Mater in Latin means mother and we can use this to understand maternity and maternal.

The children will work on decoding and reading Latin, translation and grammatical challenges linked to etymology. This includes understanding the different word endings linked to masculine/feminine and tenses. All the children will be reading from the Secundus Latin textbook (moving on in Latin) to support their learning.

As readers, the children will be engaging with high quality texts both fiction and non-fiction from Complete Comprehension and considering why authors use certain vocabulary to engage the reader. The children will answer different styles of questions about the text and use their dictionaries and thesauruses to investigate language.

The class readers for this term will be Sleep-Over, Take-Over by Simon James Green and Once by Morris Gleitzman. Our class readers are chosen to develop empathy, understanding of others and to encourage discussion.



As computer engineers, the children will be using the computer programme to produce quizzes and sharing the quizzes with their peers. They will also be learning about binary numbers and what they represent and how to use binary numbers when programming. In the second half of term the children will be learning about spreadsheets and using Excel to understand formula and how to represent data.

