



Petersfield Church of England School

Curriculum Information

Rowan Class, Summer Term 2021



English

This term we will focus on polishing our writing skills across a variety of genres. Our first focus novel will be 'Holes' by Louis Sachar. We will continue to develop skills needed to create vivid characters, settings and atmospheres in fiction writing. The class will continue to learn how to incorporate a wide range of punctuation into their work and to investigate spelling patterns. We will also focus on a cultural difference text type picture book – The proudest blue, written by an Olympic Athlete.

Mathematics

This term we will be concentrating on the following areas of maths.

- Decimals.
- Properties of shape.
- Position and direction.
- Converting units.
- Volume.

We will use a range of practical resources to help support the children's learning of key skills and understanding. The children will learn topics in-depth through a range of fluency, problem-solving and reasoning activities.

Spanish

This term in Spanish we are revising colours, common nouns and then the flags of some countries. We then focus on Spain and some of the key features and cities of the country. We will use the points of the compass and key geographical features to locate them on a map. They will learn vocabulary for places in towns.

Science

Animals including humans: We will learn about the changes as humans develop to old age. We will make links to PSHE and RE through this topic.

Light: We how light travels and how we see objects. We explain the process of light, sight and shadows.

Working Scientifically: We will take measurements, using a range of scientific equipment, with increasing accuracy and precision and report and present findings from enquiries, including conclusions, causal relationships and explanations of and a degree of trust in results, in oral and written forms.



History

We will be studying the Maya Civilization of Central America, considering why this is an area worthy of study. We will look at how the civilization arose and what life was like there at its height. We will use a variety of sources and question whether the Maya should be considered "civilized" given that they practised human sacrifice. We will evaluate evidence to reach our own conclusions about why their empire ended.

Art & DT: Maya use of pattern and colour will provide inspiration for developing 3D skills, first by creating clay stelae decorated with glyphs, then by making headdresses. We will also design and build zoetropes and create a feast based on foods the Maya ate.

Music: We will continue our learning of reading and writing Music in the first half term. The second half term will be focussed on performance and 'moving on and up'. **PE:** Striking and fielding; team building and working together using communication.

PSHE: Healthy & safer lifestyles - Sex and relationships education. After focusing on basic anatomy, including the physical differences between female and male bodies, we will look at the changes that happen to people's bodies at various stages in their lives, especially at puberty. The children will learn about the benefits of carrying out regular hygiene routines, including how good hygiene is important for preventing the spread of viruses and bacteria.

Computing: We will look carefully at staying safe on line and develop skills using a range of everyday applications for real life purposes.

RE

We will complete our Humanism topic from last term learning with a remote visitor for questions and answers. Then learn about 'The journey of life,' which includes philosophical discussions and beliefs about what happens after death. We look at this from a Christian and Hindu perspective. We learn about faith, destiny and reincarnation. (NB this unit of work has been amended by teachers across the County with build in sensitivity in the light of Covid.) Our second unit explores the question, 'What can we learn from some aspects of the Hindu religion? This unit will involve research and reading/sharing stories to do with the world faith of Hinduism.

Rowan Class Homework Menu

Last terms Homework Project again resulted in an incredibly high standard of homework. This term, we continue to set project homework alongside the Maths or English set each week. This menu details a range of fun activities including Oracy activities that can be completed at home to extend your child's learning. Please help your child to choose and complete a selection of these activities. To fit in with your family life, they can be completed after school, at weekends or as a half term project. If you would like further suggestions, please feel free to select from the homework menus of other classes which are all available on the school Website. Children are asked to share at least one of the activities with us in school. **The deadline for this homework is Wednesday 16th June** and we ask that the homework is not brought into class until after half term.



English

- Write a story in diary form detailing your expedition into the forests of Central America and your discovery of a ruined Maya city.
- Research and write a biography of either Frederick Catherwood or any other archaeologist who studied the Maya.
- Choose a poem or short piece of prose that you enjoy, learn it by heart and prepare a performance of it to give to the class.
- Design and make your own picture book that tells a story in illustrations rather than words.

Suggested Reading List

- Narrative poems e.g. "The Pied Piper of Hamelin" by Robert Browning or "Chocolate Cake" by Michael Rosen
- Any non-fiction book about the Maya (try the local libraries)
- *Middle World (Jaguar Stones)* by J and P Voelkel

Science

- Investigate types of light bulbs in your home and the strength of light from each one.
- Create a light/dark silhouette show controlling light carefully. Record your show digitally. Add a simple story line linked to Maya/Hinduism.
- Create a timeline of Human life from pre-birth to the end of life. How do humans age and change over time?

The Maya

History & Geography

- Produce a flick book animation of Maya people playing the Ball Game.
- Build a map or 3D model of a Maya city (real or imaginary).
- Research some of the foods we have got from the Maya and make a dish (or a whole feast!) to show off some of these ingredients.
- Create a timeline of the Maya Civilization showing key events.

Mathematics

- Can you create a maths problem or board game based on the Maya civilisation?
- Plan a budget for an expedition to South America. Use websites to find prices for flights, equipment etc.
- Make a PowerPoint presentation showing how the Maya number system worked.

Art & DT

- Research Mayan art work and then make a relief carving in the same style.
- Find out about Frederick Catherwood then try sketching a local historic site "in the field" or try sketching a Maya site from a photograph.

Possible Family Trips & Visits (when possible)

- Cadbury World – find out about the links between the Maya and chocolate.
- The Cambridge Science Centre
- The British Museum – Maya collection
- Cambridge University Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology