

Whitchurch CE Primary School



The Magnificent Mayans

Year 6

Spring 2 2025

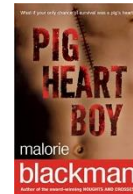
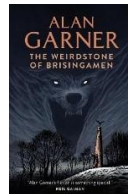
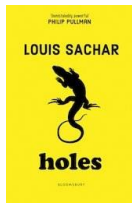
Curriculum Information Leaflet

English

Reading

We continue to use a variety of short texts, or extracts from texts, to focus our learning on different reading skills. Through these lessons, we aim to promote an enjoyment of reading, alongside improving children's reading and comprehension skills. We spend one lesson a week focussing on developing the children's oracy skills, looking at how to use intonation and expression accurately. Our reading sessions will typically follow the same structure of being broken down into four or five lessons over the course of the week.

Accompanying these lessons, each class will be reading a class book during our morning read slot. This will change for every class, every half-term. Please ask your child what their current class reader is.



Writing

Aim: To view well-known stories from alternate viewpoints.

To analyse a music video to infer meanings and character traits.

We will focus our writing initially on a short story called 'The Queen's Tale'. It explores the story of Snow White but from the viewpoint of The Queen, shedding a different light on the tale. We will analyse the characters in a non-traditional way, discussing themes, writing letters and diary entries. We will then base our writing around the text 'Guardians of the Planet'. Using this text, we will be producing a persuasive leaflet as well as a balanced argument around current topics which are currently relevant to the world today.

You can help at home by encouraging children to edit their writing and by reading a range of different texts with them to increase their reading stamina and enhance their imagination.

Maths

Aim: To learn about ratio, statistics, properties of shapes and angles.

In Maths this half term, we will turn our attention to algebra, where we will focus on understanding function machines, forming expressions, solving equations and using our knowledge to find solutions to rules. After this, we will be looking at statistics and interpreting a range of different graphs and charts before moving on to calculating the mean. During this half term, we will also recap on the children's knowledge of shape and properties of shapes. Finally, we will then be working with angles, the relationship between them and calculating with them.

You can help at home by continuing to encourage and quiz your child with their times tables and ensuring they are continuing to learn them.

Important vocabulary for this half term which will be beneficial to discuss at home includes: expression, equation, solution, substitution, average.

History

The Magnificent Mayans

Aim: To learn about the Mayans and compare their lifestyle to the modern day

During Spring 2, we will start our new history topic looking at the Ancient Mayan people. We will begin by looking at who the Maya were and when they lived. The children will be able to relate the Maya to other civilisations they have looked at throughout school. During this topic we will learn about the Maya in detail, the children will discuss Maya Gods, temples, lifestyle, social class structure and of course, chocolate!

You can help at home by doing some research about the Mayans with your child.

Important vocabulary for this half term which will be beneficial to discuss at home includes: civilisation, cacao beans, hieroglyphs, priest, noble, calendar

Science

Microorganisms

Aim: To understand the 3 types of microorganism, where they can be found and how they work

This half term, we will be delving into the world of microorganisms. The children will be learning about how microorganisms are all around us and that there are different types. We will look at how microorganisms can help and hinder us in daily life, ranging from yeast to harmful bacteria. We will also be looking into vaccines and relating this to the recent pandemic.

You can help at home by discussing any appropriate vaccines with your child to link to our first few lessons.

Important vocabulary for this half term which will be beneficial to discuss at home is: microbe, germ, virus, disease, decompose, fermentation.

R.E.

Salvation

Aim: To understand what Christians' believe about the resurrection

Our Easter term RE topic will focus on salvation, and the children will learn about how Christians believe Jesus was resurrected. The children will discuss why Christians believe this and make clear connections between Christian belief in the Resurrection and how Christians worship on Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Finally, children will evaluate and explain the importance of salvation to Christians and as a conclusion, they will give a personal response and reflect on how it can be applied to their own lives.

You can help at home by discussing the Easter story with your child.

PE

Tennis and Gymnastics

This half term, the children will be consolidating previously learned skills and techniques of net games and sending/receiving, through learning tennis skills, in our outdoor games lessons. We will learn new skills and put these into practise within small games.

During indoor PE lessons, we will be looking at gymnastics. We will be learning individual and partner balances and holds and then creating short routines out of these using the wall bars.

You can help at home by continuing to encourage your children to lead healthy and active lifestyles.

PSHE

Jigsaw - The mindful approach to PSHE is a progressive and spiral scheme of learning. In planning the lessons, Jigsaw PSHE ensures that learning from previous years is revisited and extended, adding new concepts, knowledge and skills, year on year as appropriate.

In this Puzzle the children discuss taking responsibility for their own physical and emotional health and the choices linked to this. They talk about different types of drugs and the effects these can have on people's bodies. The class discuss exploitation as well as gang culture and the associated risks. They also talk about mental health / illness and that people have different attitudes towards this. They learn to recognise the triggers for and feelings of being stressed and that there are strategies they can use when they are feeling stressed.

MFL

The Weekend (continued)

Aim: To identify and tell the time. To learn and use the vocabulary of weekend activities.

This half term children will continue to use their knowledge of numbers to tell the time. They will begin to use the vocabulary and phrases associated with telling the time as well as weekend activities more confidently during the second half of the unit.

You can help at home by encouraging your child to practise their counting in French, as well as their newly learned vocabulary.

Art

Aztec Patterns

Aim: To explore and design different Aztec patterns.

To begin this unit we will be exploring and experimenting with Aztec designs and repeating patterns. We will use the ideas we gather to design a collograph (printing block) to create some of our own patterns. We will also be looking at designing some Aztec style clothing and experimenting with geometric patterns.

Computing

Website design

Aim: To design and create a website for a chosen interest

The children will look at the components of a good website and then design their own simple website, based on a topic of interest. For this we will be using google sites.

You can help at home by encouraging your child to continue to make good choice on social media and with the internet usage.

DT

Cooking

This half-term, we will be looking at a cooking project involving chocolate truffles. We will cross-reference this with our learning of the Mayans and chocolate. The children will have a go at designing, making and reviewing their own chocolate truffles. We will of course cater for those children who have dietary needs or requirements.

Music

This half term in music the children will explore the musical elements of duration and structure. They will focus particularly on minimalist music, listening to various pieces to explore the ideas used. They will then develop their understanding of the musical structure further through their own minimalist compositions. also focusing on using formal musical notation to record their work.

Key Dates

February 28th – Author visit
March 6th – World Book Day
May 12th – SATs week (Next half-term)

Home Learning

All home learning will be set online using Google classroom. Home learning will be set weekly on a Wednesday and is to be handed in by the following Monday.

- When your child has completed their English home learning, please could you photograph the relevant pages and attach it to the Google classroom assignment.
 - We will not post a homework grid this half-term, as we appreciate that the children will be doing revision for SATs.

We expect all children to complete the work, which is set, as it is good consolidation and practise of what has been learned in class during the week, as well as good preparation for secondary school.

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your child throughout the coming term.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your child's class teacher or Mrs Dunwell.

Year 6 Team