

Year 5 Curriculum Overview 2021-2022

Spring 1: Why was the Roman Empire so successful?



This half term is driven by the text 'The Thieves of Ostia' by Caroline Lawrence. It follows the story of 4 children in Ancient Rome as they attempt to solve a mystery in their town. As a historical novel, it includes lots of facts about life during this time, linking to this term's historical study of the Romans. Historical skills will be taught through investigating the question: Why was the Roman Empire so successful?

We will look at forces in science, considering how mechanisms are used to move objects and how forces can impact an objects movement in a range of mediums. In DT, this knowledge will be applied as the children design and make their own mechanisms to fulfil a set brief.

In art, we continue our focus on historical art, looking at Invaders and Settlers. This leads to the study of zoomorphic art. As musicians, we will explore a variety of instruments this term that are featured in the orchestra and compare different sounds created (timbre).

In PSHE, we will build on last half term's computing unit on online safety, by looking at keeping safe and managing risk in a range of situations. In French, we will learn to give information about our family, building on our skills by learning how to talk the third person. In P.E., we will learn the skills of orienteering, as well as develop our performing arts skills through dance. In R.E, we will be continuing to develop our understanding of other religions by considering what kind of king Jesus was through the eyes of the Christian faith. Finally, in computing this term, we will be developing our programming skills through looking at creating and debugging code.

Spring 2: Why was the Roman Empire so successful?

Continuing our work on the Roman Empire, we will study non-fiction texts, focusing on the different purposes of non-fiction and how layout and language features change depending on your audience. We will also explore a work of Shakespeare: Hamlet, to develop an understanding of characterisation through language choices. Within history, we will explore how the Romans developed their empire and maintained control through the development of a range of enquiry skills (such as questioning and source analysis). This will ultimately enable pupils to understand and articulate how and why the Roman Empire was so successful and the impact it had. Societal conventions were important during the Roman era, and in PSHE we will look at identify, society and equality in the modern day, looking at how things have changed and what problems we still face today.

As scientists, we will be studying the properties of materials, investigating how to separate mixtures and solutions before studying which changes are reversible and which are irreversible and why. In art, we will focus on our local area, studying old and modern architecture as well as photography.

In French, we will learn how to describe the different seasons and what people wear in different weathers. In P.E., we will learning the skills of both tag rugby and ultimate frisbee, developing our ability to play and communicate as part of a team. Finally, in R.E, we will be continuing to develop our understanding of other religions by considering why the Torah is so important to Jewish people.