

Year 5 Newsletter



Aldwyn Primary School - Every Child a Success
Spring Term 1

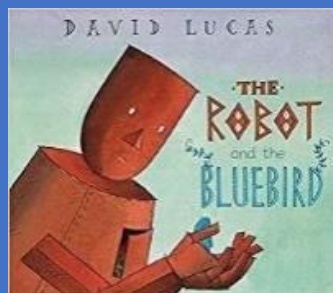
Wednesday 3rd January 2024
to
Friday 9th February 2024



Theme – Mysteries of the Maya



What will we read this half term?



The Robot and the Bluebird – David Lucas

“My old heart only ever said *tick tock*,” said the Robot, “but now my heart is *singing*.” This is the story of a Robot with a broken heart, a Robot who thinks he is good for nothing. Then one winter’s day, a Bluebird appears and gives him the strength to make a final journey.



The Happy Prince – Oscar Wilde

When a young prince dies, his statue is set on a tall column. From this height, he can see all the misery in the city. He weeps and wants to help his people. Can a chance meeting with a swallow aid the poor and needy?

What will we learn this half term?

Please note that all of the Curriculum Overviews for each subject can be found on the school website. These contain detailed outlines of the coverage and rationales for teaching. Please take time to read them.

English

Our English unit will cover a range of activities which provide opportunities for reading and writing using the short stories 'The Robot and the Bluebird' and 'The Happy Prince'. Your children will be comparing the themes and styles of these two texts and creating and designing their own original picture book. Our SPaG objectives also include; apostrophes for plural possession, prepositions, subordinate clauses and commas to clarify meaning.

We will also complete weekly Guided Reading, spelling and handwriting activities too.

Maths

In Maths, we will be working on the following areas:

- equivalent fractions
- converting improper fractions to mixed numbers and vice-versa
- comparing and ordering fractions
- adding and subtracting fractions



We will also be revising our multiplication and division facts, using the Times Table Rockstars website, which can also be accessed at home. Children have been given their login details and have been shown how to access the resources from home.

Science

Our Animals Including Humans unit will teach your children about the changes that human beings experience as they develop to old age. This includes the life cycle of a human being, how the gestation period of humans compares with other animals and the changes experienced in puberty.

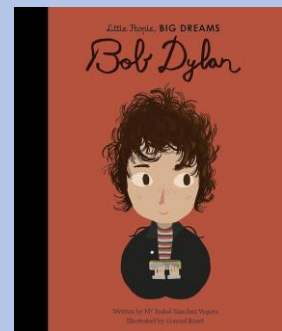
Research Topic

This half-term, we will be researching the ancient Maya civilisation. The children will learn who the ancient Maya people were and where and when they lived. In addition to this, they will explore the religious beliefs and rituals of the ancient Maya and find out more about the many Gods they worshipped.

Music

Our music learning is focused around the song: 'Make you feel my love' by Bob Dylan. This is an intergrated approach to music where games, the dimensions of music, singing and playing instruments are all linked. As well as learning to sing, play, improvise and compose with this song, children will listen and appraise other pop ballads.

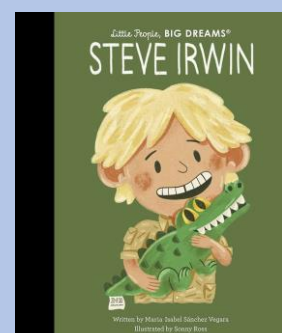
We will also read about Bob Dylan and his impact on music and culture.



SEAL, PSHCE

Our whole-school PSHCE theme is Dreams and Goals. The children will be considering their aspirations for the future and encouraging their peers to work hard to achieve their own dreams and goals.

We will look at the life of one of the most celebrated conservationists, Steve Irwin and how he worked hard to achieve his dreams and goals.



RE

Our RE unit explores the key question: If God is everywhere, why go to a place of worship? We will consider the idea of God's presence on earth and in believers' lives. Pupils will also learn about the various purposes of a place of worship as well as how believers see these places.

PE

Year 5 are continuing with their swimming lessons this half-term. The children will also be participating in our dance unit, which will develop skills in their partner work, sequence of movement and creating motifs.

Please note that no jewellery of any kind will be allowed in the swimming pool or P.E. sessions. If your child has recently had their ears pierced and cannot take them out, we kindly ask that you provide tape or plasters to cover them up.



Computing

This unit builds on the previous skills learnt in Year 4 (Questions and Quizzes). The children will use Scratch to build and edit algorithms for simple games. The unit is designed to help children develop their skills in writing their own algorithms as well as editing and debugging existing codes.

Design Technology

In this unit, the children will be able to:

- describe the process of bean production
- research a traditional recipe and make changes to it
- add nutritional value to a recipe by selecting ingredients
- prepare and cook a version of a bean burger

Foreign Languages

Our French unit is 'That's Tasty'. In this unit, the children will learn key vocabulary related to food and drink including how to say what drinks they like, fillings for sandwiches and what they like to eat for breakfast.

Homework

Your children will continue to receive a piece of English and Maths homework every week and are expected to practise for their weekly spelling and times tables/division tests. We ask that you encourage your children to read at home and to please check and sign their times-tables, spelling and Reading Record books weekly.

We also recommend using the Times Table Rockstars website, which can be accessed at home, to support children in their learning of multiplication and division facts.



We really look forward to the half term ahead. If you need to get in touch, please write a note in your child's Reading Record or speak to a member of staff on the classroom door who will be happy to answer any queries.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Miss Coles, Miss Hind, Mrs. Newton, Miss Neale.