

# Autumn 1 Topic Overview

## Upper Key Stage 2

### Science

#### Earth and Space: What would life be like if the planets didn't move?

In our Science lessons, the children will explore the fascinating world of Earth and Space. They will develop their understanding of the Solar System, planets, orbits, rotation, day and night, shadows and the phases of the Moon, using practical activities, models, observations and outdoor learning.

Children will also explore how scientists use evidence and data to understand space, identifying patterns in planetary data. They will bring their learning together by creating a drama-based scientific news report, using scientific vocabulary and evidence to explain what might happen if the Earth, Moon and planets stopped moving.

### History

#### Mayans: What did the Mayans do for us today?

Children will explore the Maya civilisation, discovering where and when they lived, their farming, religion, writing, architecture and artistic achievements. They will use historical sources to investigate the past, make comparisons with other civilisations and develop their understanding of the Maya's lasting influence and legacy.

### Maths- Place Value and Four Operations

**Year 5:** In our Maths lessons, we are working on solidifying our understanding of Place Value – focusing on numbers up to 1,000,000. Children will also be securing their understanding of the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division), ensuring they are using the correct formal written methods. In our Super 6 lessons we are working on quick recall of multiplication, so please keep practicing these at home to give us the best head start to the year!

**Year 6:** In our Maths lessons, the children will be working on solidifying their knowledge and understanding of place value, up to and including numbers to 10,000,000. We will then be moving onto the four operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. The children will be applying this knowledge to problem solving and reasoning questions to deepen their understanding. We will be focussing on times tables in our super six lessons with a focus on quick recall.

### Design & Technology – Making Chocolate

In our DT lessons, the children will learn all about where chocolate comes from, the process of making chocolate and will even conduct their own taste tests. They will develop their knowledge of product advertising, nutrition, allergies and dietary requirements before combining these skills to design, make and evaluate their very own chocolate bar.

### English

In Writing, children will begin the year with a recap on the basic skills needed to produce amazing writing in Year 5 and 6, they will then produce an exciting, descriptive piece of writing inspired by How to Train Your Dragon.

We will then be using the picture book The Journey by Aaron Becker to produce a setting description and narrative.

Later in the half term, we will be creating seasonal poetry inspired by Autumn.

Children will also begin their daily transcription lessons, focusing on handwriting, spelling and grammar.

### Computing – Communication and Collaboration

Children will learn that data is transferred across the internet through addressing and packets giving children insight into the systems that make online communication possible.

### PE

#### Indoor – Lacrosse

Children will learn and practise a range of lacrosse skills, including passing, catching, attacking and defending, before applying these in mini-games.

#### Outdoor – Basketball

Children will develop a range of basketball skills, including passing, dribbling, shooting and defending, while learning to communicate, create space and apply tactics in game situations.

### Reading

Children will complete 5 reading lessons a week. Three of these lessons will focus on our class text 'Oh Maya Gods' where children will be using a range of skills including prediction, retrieval, inference and vocabulary to understand the text, its themes and characters in detail.

The children will also be completing an individual text lesson per week where they will focus on a shorter text, poem, article or news report for example. These are carefully selected to represent the children's interests, topical stories from around the world and broadening the children's reading experiences.