

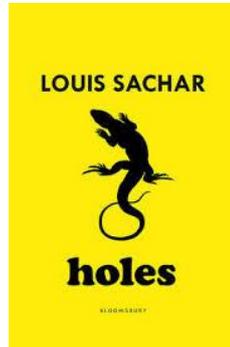
Class 5 Newsletter September 2017

Hello and welcome to Class 5! Our theme this half term is The Big Story which is linked closely to our RE topic, The Big Story of the Bible. We will also be linking our work in other subjects too, such as our art work which will link to ancient Greek mythology. Mrs Stephens will work in Class 5 throughout the year and Mr Ryde will teach science, history and music on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons.



English

Our work in English is inspired by the story Holes by Louis Sachar. We will explore the techniques that the writer uses to engage the reader. We will also use the story as inspiration for our writing. We will focus on writing high quality descriptions in using expanded noun phrases and figurative language. We will also write letters and diary accounts from the point of view of the main character, Stanley Yelnats. We will also focus on using relative clauses and using modal verbs appropriately as well as using commas, dashes and brackets to add extra information appropriately.



compares to scientific theories and evidence, particularly how these two different viewpoints can complement each other. We will also explore Christian beliefs of God as creator and the place of humans in creation.

History

The children will explore the ancient Greek civilisation. They will learn about the timeline of the four main periods in the Greek empire. They will learn about Alexander the Great before finding out about the ancient Olympic Games.

In **music** the children will learn about beat, syncopation, pitch and harmony in a unit of work which combines singing and dance.

French

The children start the year by recapping on food: their favourite foods, likes and dislikes and how to order food and drinks in a café.

Computing

In computing we continue to develop our understanding of computer coding through using the Scratch computer coding language. We will learn how to create sequences of coding that will allow people to control objects on screen and creating games and activities that include multiple variables.

PE is on Monday and Tuesday. On Mondays we will focus on improving our invasion games skill, particularly in netball. On Tuesdays we will focus on improving our athletics skills in both track and field events. We will learn how to pace our running according to the distance and then developing our skills in events such as long jump, triple jump and javelin.

Maths

Our maths work has begun by focusing on developing our understanding of place value in numbers up to 10 million. We will also work on rounding numbers, comparing and ordering numbers with up to 3 decimal place and then negative numbers.

Other areas of maths we will visit are:

- using the four operations for mental and written calculations (see the maths section of the website for details of the calculation methods that we will be teaching to the children);
- understanding fractions, particularly comparing fractions.

In all of this work we will focus heavily on developing the children's problem solving and mathematical reasoning skills as well as improving their mathematical fluency.

Our **science** work will focus on forces. The children will explore the concepts of gravity, friction, up thrust and air resistance whilst also developing their scientific enquiry skills by carrying out a variety of investigations, measurements and observations. They will also learn how gears, levers and pulleys are used to adapt the force and gain a mechanical advantage.

RE

In RE we begin by exploring the Big Frieze – a piece of art work that helps us to understand 'The Big Story of the Bible'. Through the remainder of the half term we will consider the Bible's version of the story of creation and how this

A few reminders and requests:

- Writing homework will be sent home every other Wednesdays to be returned the following Wednesday;
- Reading records and reading books need to come to school every day and go home every day. Reading records will be checked in school on a Friday;
- Spelling tests are each Friday and new spellings are sent home the same day;
- PE kit, including plimsolls, should be in school throughout the half term. However, we will aim to be outside for PE lessons as much as possible so children can bring a pair of trainers on Mondays and Tuesdays.



M Smith