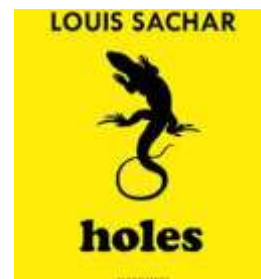


Hola Mexico!



Welcome to Mexico. Get ready to explore this unique country, from its towering temples and stunning geography to its pulsing rhythms and fun festivals. Is your tummy rumbling? Concoct a traditional fruit cocktail or a delicious Mexican meal. What's on your shopping list? Go steady with the spices. Discover the mysterious world of the ancient Mayan civilisation. Make their chocolate, learn their poetry, play their ball game and follow all of their curious rituals. Just try to keep your head. Feel like celebrating? Design a flute, grab a drum, join a tribe and make some noise. Have you got what it takes to be chief? Let's find out.

As Mathematicians, children will further their knowledge of place value, deepening understanding of larger numbers and how to round them. They will be working with the four operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. In class, we encourage the children to always explain their reasoning, recognise where and why mistakes have been made and to discuss the methods they have used. This will help to develop their confidence going forwards.



In English, children will undertake a book study of Louis Sachar's 'Holes' with Miss Mac. This book links well with our topic and will be used for guided reading, vocabulary development and a whole range of writing opportunities. Our other English work will focus on developing the range of writing techniques and grammar required at Year 6 using the full range of genres. This will include: instructions, postcards, description, comic strips, poetry and non-fiction as a start! They will have spellings to work on each week and these will focus on the key Year 5/6 vocabulary.

In Religious Education, children will complete a unit exploring the key question of "How can following God bring freedom and justice?" They will explore the life and work of Moses using their Bibles, make connections between the texts studied and what Christians believe about how we should behave.



As Historians, children will learn about a non-European society that provides contrasts with British history – the Mayan civilization c. AD 900. There is debate about how to use the term 'Maya' or 'Mayan'. In academic use, 'Mayan' is restricted to referring to their languages; 'Maya' is the adjectival form used for non-linguistic aspects. We will be following this convention in our project, although when searching for online resources we may use either term. Children will use their findings to create a digital presentation about the Maya using text and pictures. They will organise their work in a clear and interesting way, adding transitions and backing music to create interesting effects.

As Geographers, children will use world maps and satellite images to locate Mexico, identifying which hemisphere it is in, its location in relation to the equator, and its surrounding countries. Once found, they will draw a sketch map of the country, showing aspects of its human and physical geography, including major cities, surrounding seas, mountain ranges, airports and tourist resorts. Children will explore the Chihuahuan desert, investigating what life is like living in such a place.



As Artists, children will explore the creations produced for Day of the Dead celebrations along with how Maya Stelae are carved. They will research and practice the techniques used in Street Art and will create their own style.



As designers, children will have the opportunity to discover typical Mexican food and drinks, researching recipes, producing shopping lists for ingredients and then making a range of dishes and fruit drinks.



As Musicians, children will discover that music is very important in Mexican culture and is always part of a celebration, whether big or small. They will look at the range of instruments that are used and the impact that these have on the style of music produced.



In Computing, children will use search technologies effectively and safely to conduct valid research into the content covered. Children will use suitable software to create presentations, exploring the effectiveness of transitions, animations and background music.

In PSHCE, children will learn what it means to be a Rights Respecting School. The aim is for all children to feel happy, safe and confident at school so that they are ready to learn. We will explore friendship and how we manage and move on from conflict.

In Physical Education, children will be working of a variety of team and individual games, including tennis, with the aim of developing both skills, co-ordination, stamina and team work. We will look at a range of games that were played around the time of the war.



Homework

Our homework this half term should be a range of activities that will reinforce the learning that is being completed in class. The class should spend at least 20 minutes three times a week on each program, as it will be beneficial for each of them. The children have all been given a card with their different log ins. They also need to have access to Seesaw, where will post learning updates and other bits and pieces like spellings.

- 1) Prodigy – as you already know, this is a maths learning program. Their character levels up as they progress. To do this they are asked questions from the different area of maths. Every week I set specific areas that they need to practice from learning we have covered in class. The program feeds back to me, showing the progress that each child is making. If they are finding particular areas difficult, it makes it a little easier for them. They also are encouraged to come in and ask me.
- 2) Read Theory – this is a similar idea but with reading as a focus. Again, the children are reading a range of texts and answering questions about these. It also adapts the difficulty of the text to the level of the reader.
- 3) TT Rockstars – again, a similar idea but with respect to learning times tables.

Additionally, each week, the children will come home with five spellings from our new spelling scheme. They will receive these on a Monday and will have the rest of the week to learn them before being tested on a Friday. They will then receive the next five words for the following week. The test will cover all of the words that they have been assigned so far, increasing by five each week. I have attached the spellings for each week on the next page.

If you have any further questions, please do contact us on mcheshire@chidham.w-sussex.sch.uk and lmacdonald@chidham.w-sussex.sch.uk

Autumn 1st 2021

Week 1

Invention

Injection

Action

Hesitation

Completion

Week 2

Expression

Discussion

Confession

Permission

Admission

Week 3

Expansion

Extension

Comprehension

Tension

Week 4

Musician

Physician

Beautician

Magician

Politician

Week 5

Ought

Brought

Thought

Bought

Bought

Week 6

Tough

Rough

Cough

Although