

Year 5 Half Termly Learning Update: Spring 2 2025



English

In writing this half term, we will be investigating character flaw tales. This will include investigating both its features and structure. We will then move onto practising some of its features. These include character description through show not tell, using adverbials/preposition effectively, punctuating speech correctly, using parenthesis and using colons, semi-colons and dashes to separate main clauses. Next, we will plan the opening and problem of a character flaw tale using the example provided.

In the week that follows, we will explore non-chronological features. This will include a similar structure to investigating a character flaw tale by investigating its features and structure before practising its features. These features include using appropriate pronouns, considering carefully selected words and technical vocabulary and adding description that interests and engages the reader. The lessons that follow will include planning, which will focus on note taking, and two lessons of writing a non-chronological based on our Maya topic.

For the finally two weeks of the half term, we will explore both kennings poems and riddles and finally we will conduct a children's choice writing week where children can lead their writing genre.

Maths

Angles

At the start of this unit, we will ensure that we can identify the different types of angles (acute, obtuse, right, straight line and reflex angle). To build onto this, we will begin to measure and draw angles. Throughout the unit, we will learn how to apply this skill to angles on a line and angles around a point. Additionally, we will learn how to solve angle problems using known facts about different angles and angles within squares and rectangles. Finally, we will explore and identify regular and irregular polygons.

Position and Direction

During this unit, we will start by understanding how to name and plot points on a co-ordinate grid using the x axis and y axis. Using this knowledge, we will begin to describing and show translations on a co-ordinate grid. After this, we will recognise and show reflections on a co-ordinate grid.

Big Idea

Surely chocolate isn't all the Mayans were known for?!

Our main curriculum drivers this half term are: History, Geography, Design and Technology and Art.

In these lessons we will be learning to: understand BCE (Before Common Era) and CE (Common Era) whilst using precise dates to show an understanding of where the Maya era sits within wider world history. We will also study different aspects of different people within the Maya hierarchy and compare life in different periods. Additionally, we will examine the causes and consequences during the collapse of the Maya society (such as overpopulation, disease, war and famine).

In DT, we will research existing bread/ chocolate flavoured products and comment on various features such as texture, flavour, appearance and smell. Whilst incorporating seasonality, we will make and evaluate (including creating a design criterion and sketches) our very own chocolate bread, which is inspired by the Maya's use of chocolate.

Also in this topic we are creating tessellation art work inspired by the Maya and M C Escher. We will explore existing art work by commenting on different features. Using given shapes or by hand drawing, we will create and evaluate a tessellation piece that draws on traditional Maya colours and symbols.

In Geography, we will be investigating earthquakes and volcanoes whilst building our understanding on tectonic plates. The investigations will help us to understand why natural disasters are significant to areas in Central America. By the end of this unit, we will be constructing maps that are based on the Maya Civilisation and Central America.

By the end of this unit we will: use gathered facts and sources to plan and write a double page spread of non-chronological report all about the Maya Civilisation.



philomartin.co

