English

The teaching in English will focus on three model texts. The children will be using the 'Talk for Writing' structure to explore the traditional tale – '*The Old Man and the Donkey*', the poem '*Chocolate Cake*' (Michael Rosen) and a persuasive piece titled '*Visit Yorkshire*'. The key features of each genre will be investigated and incorporated into the children's own creative writing. Relevant punctuation and grammar themes will also be taught and we will be covering the specific spelling rules and word patterns for the year group.

PE

This term, we will have swimming sessions twice a week (see separate communication for dates).

We hope to develop skills and confidence levels at all levels, and qualified instructors will be helping your child to progress.

Music
'*The Blues*'

The children will be introduced to this famous genre of music and its history. They will learn to identify the key features and mood. They will also get to grips with the 12-bar Blues and the Blues scale by creating their own piece.

Maths

We will start the term by completing the unit on multiplication and division. We will learn about prime, square and cube numbers and will explore multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000.
Fractions will also be covered before Christmas. We will find out about equivalency and will practise converting between mixed numbers and improper fractions.
We will be comparing and ordering fractions (greater than and less than 1) and will then move on to adding and subtracting fractions in their different forms (same denominator, mixed numbers etc.)

Science
'*Living things and their habitats*'

We will begin this topic by exploring how plants reproduce. We will then study the life cycle of mammals in different habitats. This will involve finding out about the scientist Jane Goodall and her discoveries about chimpanzees.
Finally, we will compare and contrast the life cycles of different types of living things – amphibians, insects, birds etc.

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Religious education

The 'Big Question' for this term is <u>Was Jesus the Messiah?</u>'

Pupils will be challenged to explain the place of Incarnation and Messiah within the 'big story' of the Bible. This will involve exploring how Christians put their beliefs about Jesus' Incarnation into practice when celebrating Christmas. They will also be considering how the idea of Jesus as the Messiah is relevant in the world today and how this might affect people's lives.

Topic
Maya

We will be historians this term as we study the ancient Maya civilisation. The children will learn where and when these people lived and about other key features of their lives (religious beliefs, number systems, writing, diet etc.)
They will also learn about the evidence we have to inform us about this civilisation and about the historians who made important and relevant discoveries.

Art & Design
'*Architecture*'

This unit involves exploring the built environment through drawing and print making. We will also be finding out about the work of Zaha Hadid and Hunderwasser. Symbolism in monument design will also be investigated.

Computing
Scratch Coding

The children will begin by revising the key features of Scratch and will then explore how Scratch games work. They will investigate the concept of a 'variable' and how to make one. These skills will then be combined in the creation of a simple maths quiz.

MFL (French)
'*Family and Friends*'

We will learn how to introduce members of our families in French.
We will then use familiar vocabulary to talk about our homes and pets. Suitable adjectives to enhance these descriptions will also be introduced.

PSHE
'*Celebrating Differences*'

We will be exploring cultural differences and the conflicts these can cause. We also hope to deepen the children's understanding of racism and different kinds of bullying.
At the end of the unit, we will be comparing our lives with people in the developing world, celebrating differences in cultures that are not 'our own'.