



During this term, our topic is

## What was life like during the Shang Dynasty?



Curriculum Area	Areas to be taught in school	Possible activities to be done at home
English	<p>During the first half term, we are going to be focussing on the basic skills relating to sentence structure and punctuation. We will be deepening our knowledge and understanding of grammar and the functions of the words in sentences. This unit will support children to form grammatically accurate sentences and punctuate them correctly. This will also support children when they edit and improve their own writing. At the end of the term, we will showcase our knowledge and skills through writing a non-fiction text.</p> <p>We will continue with whole class reading sessions to develop our comprehension skills and understanding of texts.</p>	<p>Encourage regular reading at home. Discuss the characters in the book your child is reading, do they like them and can they explain their choices? Can they identify the personality traits that the author has used that have given them that opinion? If your child is a keen writer, maybe they could create a piece of writing to share. Spellings will be sent home weekly for children to practise via Marvellous Me.</p>
Maths	<p>This half term we will be focusing largely on number and place value. This will include reading, writing, ordering and comparing numbers to at least 1,000,000. We will be applying our place value skills in addition and subtraction of larger numbers. We will also be learning about negative numbers and position and direction.</p>	<p>Have a look online as there are lots of maths puzzles and games to explore and enjoy! Test your child's rapid recall on their times-tables and related number facts. We focused a lot on our times tables during Year 4 and it is really important for Year 5 that children continue to practise their times tables regularly. In terms of Maths homework, the expectation is that children are regularly accessing Timetable Rock Stars.</p>
Science Physics	<p>We will be learning about the Earth and Space and about the planets in our Solar System in order to answer the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What are spherical bodies?</li> <li>2. What are the planets in our solar system?</li> <li>3. What are geocentric and heliocentric theories?</li> <li>4. How do day and night happen?</li> <li>5. How does the moon move?</li> <li>6. Who is Margaret Hamilton?</li> </ol>	<p>Watch a Sci-fi film (like ET or Star Wars) or maybe even Dr Who. Discuss with your child what science fiction is! Look at books that have information in them about Earth and space – discuss what they find or bring their findings into school. You could also use a smart phone or tablet to download Google sky maps and do some digital star-gazing together! A further project that you could choose would be to create either a model space rocket, model planet or a model of the solar system.</p>
History	<p>In History, we will be learning about the Shang Dynasty in Ancient China. We will be discovering where and when the Shang Dynasty took place, exploring key figures and events from this time period and comparing this fascinating ancient civilisation to those we have previously studied, such as the Romans and Egyptians.</p>	<p>Discuss this topic with your children at home. Can your child complete independent research about the Shang Dynasty and bring their findings into school to share with their teachers and peers?</p>
Computing	<p>This half term we will be extending our computer science knowledge within the topic of coding. We will use Scratch to create maze and chase games. In addition, as part of our e-safety work we will be</p>	<p>Please ensure you encourage your child to be safe online and tell a trusted adult if they have any worries or concerns.</p>

	looking at how children can get help if they are having problems online.	
Religious Education	We will be learning about one of the world's major religions – Islam. We will be finding out about the Qur'an and why it is important to Muslims, reading passages from the Qur'an and learning how Muslims use it today. We will also be virtually exploring a mosque and learning more about this place of worship.	Encourage conversations at home about the subject. Share your own views honestly and discuss the importance of respecting the beliefs of others.
Physical Education	In P.E, we will be learning about tag rugby. These sessions will be focusing on our passing and movement skills to ensure we can attack and defend successfully as a team. We will be finding out about the rules and skills needed for tag rugby, moving on to playing a range of competitive games. Class 12 will be swimming this half term on a Thursday and Class 11 will begin their swimming lessons next half term.	Please ensure your child comes to school wearing their full PE kit. This half term, Wednesday is our PE day. This should be black shorts or jogging bottoms, a plain white T-shirt and either trainers or plimsolls. Jewellery should not be worn for school as per the uniform policy, except for stud earrings, which must be removed (or plasters sent to cover them) prior to the lesson starting.
Art	This half term, we have a very exciting art project planned, where we will be using clay to sculpt tessellation tiles. The children will be using observations of our natural world to inspire them to do this and will focus on using symmetry to create their overall design.	Encourage children to take time looking at the natural world around them, including colours and textures. They could even spend time learning how to draw trees and leaves accurately.
French	This half term our French topic is 'seasons.' We will be recalling and developing a range of vocabulary in order to describe the months of the year and key events within the seasons. Learning will be demonstrated verbally and in written form, as well as through a range of interactive games.	Children could practise using the French vocabulary learnt in school at home. Can you teach anyone any new French words or phrases?
Music	Our work in music this half term is focused around one song: Livin' On A Prayer. Our work will see games, elements of music (pulse, rhythm, pitch etc), singing and playing instruments all linked. As well as learning to sing, play, improvise and compose with this song, children will listen to and discuss other classic songs.	Have fun listening to music at home! Can you challenge your child to listen to different types of music? Discuss the music with your child. What images does it conjure up in their heads and how does it make them feel? Have a go at making some musical instruments out of junk and play them along to your favourite songs!
Relationships Education	Our focus is at the beginning of the term will be reconnecting as a class and exploring what it means to work as a team. After this, we will be looking at VIP's in more detail. This topic focuses on our relationships with people, which people are important to us and what healthy relationships are.	Discuss our topics at home together. Explore what team work means and how it is evident in everyday life. Discuss communication and its importance in team work. You can also look at why relationships are important in our lives and create a presentation around this.