

For the first couple of weeks, we will be settling into Life in our new classroom, picking new School Parliament Representatives and setting out our expectations in the Class Charter. We will delve into our 'Love that Book' topic to set the tone and roll into our first topic– South America!

If you have any questions or want to help out, please email Mrs Cooper Battersby at: ebattersby@woodhall.herts.sch.uk

Welcome to the Turtle Class!
Both Year 4 and 5 will cover the same topics but they will be learning at appropriate skills. If you have concerns or questions about your child's learning.



Writing

As part of our topic work on South America, we will start the year by researching and writing in depth information texts about different South American countries and compiling our very own class encyclopaedia! We will be securing the core writing skills of capital letters, full stops and co-ordinating conjunctions whilst exploring new vocabulary and layout formats.

Race to Space!

On 23rd September, we will be Enjoying a full day of Space Themed shenanigans and enjoy the WONDERDOME– a mobile planetarium visiting our school hall!

Mathematics

First off, we will be reading and writing numbers. We will consolidate our understanding of place value of numbers and Year Five children will practice rounding them to the nearest power of ten. Next, we will investigate negative numbers; thinking about how and why they are used and exploring simple calculations and real-life problems. We will move on to the decimal number system and multiplying and dividing numbers by 10, 100 and 1,000 and investigating properties of number including factors, multiples and primes. If some of these terms or ideas are a bit overwhelming, never fear, this maths dictionary is on hand to support learning and help you develop understanding in mathematics:
<http://www.amathsdictionaryforkids.com/dictionary.html>.



On Monday, Year 4 will go swimming and Year 5 will have P.E. with Coach Chloe. On Friday, Years 4 and 5 will have a joint session with Coach Chloe.

R.E.

We will study the Jewish and Christian faiths- not only learning about each religion but also from each of them as well. We will begin to reflect on our own ideas and learn how to respectfully discuss, debate and share our opinions whilst being tolerant and understanding of others which will also link closely to our work on British Values.

On Wednesdays, you will be working on your Reading Comprehension, Handwriting, Spanish, Music and Computing with Mrs Biedul! Log in to Purple Mash at home here:
<https://www.purplemash.com/sch/woodhall-wd19>

In Spanish, you will learn basic greetings and start to have conversations as well as explore key vocabulary.

In Computing, you will explore e-safety, coding, spreadsheets and databases!



Play Times Tables Rock Stars both in school and at home to chart our successes, challenge each other and practise, practise, practise our skills until we achieve Rock Star status!

<https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student/69396>

We will test our skills weekly in our Maths Olympics sessions, earning certificates for speedy completion of each stage.

Geography

In Geography this half term, we will be exploring maps and atlases to develop our locational and mapping skills. We will apply this to finding and learning about the different countries of the world and then focusing more specifically on South America. The children will then research and present the human and physical characteristics of Bolivia and then apply these skills to gather facts and figures on a different South American country. This fantastic quiz checks how many countries you can name.– why not have a go at home?

<https://www.jetpunk.com/quizzes/how-many-countries-can-you->

Design and Technology

In our first Design and Technology project of the year, we will be making our very own working sun dial linked to our learning in Science. When you are out and about, look out for sun dials in public places- they are more common than you think!



P.S.H.E.

This term we will learn how to recognise and respect similarities and differences between people. We will explore themes of identity, individuality and personal qualities and discuss stereotypes.

Art and Design

In Art this term, we will be learning a new aspect of the self-portrait, the profile! We will practice this unique skill and even have a go at recreating our likeness from the side-view. As part of our South America topic, we will be linking our learning in Art to History and making our own decorative Mayan masks!

Science

After half- term, Science will be literally out of this world...we will be learning all about space! To kick off the topic, we will look briefly at the theory of the Big Bang and the formation of the universe and after that, we will get stuck into the planets and touch briefly on the related topic of gravity, explaining how it plays a part in the movement of the planets. We will research the Moon and answer the important question: is the moon really a planet? Finally, we will study the Earth's movement and unpick the differences between rotation and revolution.

Check out the historic moon landing in 1969 here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cwZb2mqld0A>

History

As part of our studies on the Americas, we will be taking a deep dive into the mysterious world of the Mayans! We will learn about their way of life, their rituals, games, gods and inventions. Take a sneak peek at what is in store here:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zq6svcw/articles/zqv6msg>