Pinner Wood School

SPRING TERM 2 -2020 Curriculum Newsletter
YEAR 2

Dear Parents and Carers,
Thank you for all your support so far this term. I think you'll agree that the children and staff are working hard and having fun. Here is an outline of the curriculum coverage for the second half of the Spring Term. Geography and Science 'Knowledge Organisers' are also attached. If you, or anyone you know, have any skills or knowledge related to our topic and would be happy to come and talk to the year group, please get in touch!

This half term, our topic is '*All the way to Mexico'* and we will be focussing our learning in all subjects around the key question '*How is the UK different to Mexico?*'

Our 'Stunning Start' to launch our topic will be:

We are expecting a letter from a child who lives in Mexico to tell us all about what it is like to live there. We will read this with each class and then begin making Mexican masks. These will play a special part in our upcoming 'Mexico Day.'

We will enhance children's learning and 'Cultural Capital' with the following trips/experiences:

- A Geography workshop to help us to understand the continents and oceans of our planet
- Use of Google Earth to study and zoom in on different parts of Earth
- Use atlases and keys to look at physical and human features

Our 'Showstopper' piece of work at the end of the topic will be:

During the last week of the term we will have a celebration of all things Mexican! We will take a closer look at the differences between Pinner and a small town in Mexico. There will be creative activities, dancing, music as well as cooking.

Our 'Shared Outcome' to communicate our 'Showstopper' with others will be:

We will take lots of photos for Twitter and displays around the school. If there are any parents who wish to help with Mexico day, please let us know.

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Here is a breakdown of the skills and knowledge to be covered in each subject through this topic:

English:
This half term we will cover the following genres: narrative (focusing on the story of Little Red Riding Hood), newspaper writing, information texts as well as recounts. We will focus on using different types of sentences, various suffixes such as –ful, -ment, -ness, -ly and conjunctions.

Maths:
This half term will revisit units taught in the Autumn and Spring term. First we will cover addition and subtraction, including looking at missing number sentences. Then we will start to look at geometry again, exploring position and direction. After, we will look at number and place value again and finally, statistics. Throughout these topics, we will be practising reasoning skills through test-style questions to prepare the children for the upcoming SATs assessments in May.

Computing: We will be getting creative this half term and looking at how we can use technology to create art.

RE: We will be having an RE day all about Christianity and will do lots of exciting activities to answer the question: 'Why is the cross important to Christians?'

Art: We will design, make, decorate and evaluate Mexican masks made of papier mache.

PE: The unit for this term will aim to develop children's coordination and ball skills. We will explore balances and counter balances with a partner.

Music: This term we will explore the unit 'In the Groove.'

PSHE: Our topic is called 'Healthy Me' and focuses on food, which will build on last half term's science. It also explores different ways to relax, medicines and how to use them safely.

How to help?

- You could read: Off We Go to Mexico by Laurie Krebs, Flat Stanley goes to Mexico, an Atlas, Usborne: Inside our planet, Usborne: Big Picture Atlas (this is also our class reader)
- Go online and check out *www.natgeokids.com* and subscribe to their magazine, look around the earth on Google and zoom in to see the different climates.
- Go to the library and research hot and cold climates, Mexico weather, information about the continents and oceans of Earth.

Important Information and Dates:

- World Book Day 5.3.20
- RE day 9.3.20
- Geography Workshop 16.3.20
- Parents evening 25.3.20 and 26.3.20