



Dear Parents/Carers,

We would like to welcome you to the spring term. We will start a new topic called The Middle East. It is a history unit and we look at the history of the area.

Our topic is an unusual one which we study from a historical perspective. As always, we have found a text to link to the area which is set in the 1970s, just as Lebanon was in the middle of its civil war. It is a story of hope and courage during difficult times.

Homework is as always, Maths on a Monday and spellings on a Friday.

Miss Johnson, Mrs Watson, Mrs Denning and Miss Brotherton

OUR DRIVING QUESTION:

What would it take for peace in the Middle East to be achieved?

AS WRITERS we will be reading the story *Oranges in No Man's Land* and using it as inspiration for writing different genres. We will be writing a scene description of Beirut, a news report on the Lebanese civil war and also exploring some poetry.

AS MATHEMATICIANS we will be continuing our work on fractions before revisiting multiplication and division and returning to fractions.

AS HISTORIANS will be answering these questions:

- How was the kingdom of Israel established?
- Why is the Middle East important to different religions?
- What was the Ottoman Empire?
- What is happening in the Middle East now?

AS COMPUTER SCIENTISTS we will be working on Computer systems and networks looking at Sharing information, computer systems and us, transferring information and working together.

AS ATHLETES we will be progressing from previous units to playing competitive games in various sports, using basic tactics for attacking and defending.

AS SCIENTISTS we will be investigating and finding out about all different types of forces and their effects.

AS CITIZENS (PSHCE/RE) in PSHCE we will be thinking about fitness and different fitness skills. In RE we will be finding out about what commitment means in the World Religions.

AS MUSICIANS we will continue to listen and appraise songs from *Dancing in the Street* to *The Tracks of My Tears*.

THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- Please make sure your child has their pencil case each day with a pencil and ruler.
- Please send your child to school each Monday in their PE kit.
- Please make sure all clothes are named clearly.

IN FRENCH we will be revising our work on family and learning how to discuss the weather.

AS ARTISTS we will be studying Islamic art this half term, especially the geometric, plant and calligraphy patterns that are used.



Middle East Homework Activity Challenge

Here are a selection of activities to complete at home throughout the term.

Please complete a minimum of three activities and send in a photo or short video to show us what you've completed.

A copy of this will be added to the class Google Classroom.

Act out the story of Moses and the Red Sea

Create a slideshow about items that were invented by Islamic culture

Make your own hummus

Write an acrostic poem for the Middle East

Create a poster about the Ottoman Empire

Draw the character Ayesha from Oranges in No Man's Land

Draw a mosque

[Complete this online quiz about the geography of the Middle East](#)

Draw a mosaic inspired by Middle Eastern art

[Word search](#) of places in the Middle East

Find and copy some Islamic calligraphy

Write down five facts about Beirut