

Year 4  
Curriculum Newsletter  
10.01.2020

This half term  
our theme is  
Road Trip USA



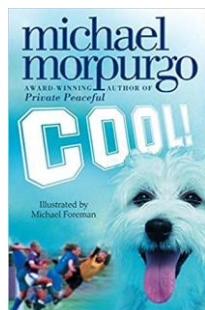
**In English**, we will research into why many tourists visit New York City and use the information we find to write an acrostic poem describing popular locations and the atmosphere there. We will read snippets of the book; *Indian in the Cupboard* and through the use of diary writing, we will step into the shoes of one of the characters, describing events from their perspective. Finally, we will be researching a chosen famous American in history and use the information found to write a non-chronological report.



**In PSHE**, we will look at iconic Americans and express our opinions on whether they have had a positive or negative impact on US society. Through drama, we will also learn about the terms stereotype and discrimination.

**In RE**, we will be making clear links between the story of the Day of Pentecost and Christian beliefs about the Kingdom of God on Earth. We will begin to give examples of what Pentecost means to some Christians now.

Our class  
book is:



**In DT**, we will explore the history behind dreamcatchers and use similar techniques to create our own. We will learn about Iroquois long houses and attempt to construct our own miniature versions using natural materials such as twigs and dead leaves. We will also look into what a Totem pole is, how they were made and common designs used. This research will then be used to inform our own artwork.

**In Science**, we will be looking at what electrical facilities luxury hotels have to offer in New York City. We will explore the illuminated Times Square and look at constructing simple series circuits of our own to light a bulb. We will also look into how the Native Americans communicated via smoke signals and come up with a communication system of our own using electric bulbs.

**In Computing**, we will be using the internet as a tool for research. We will also be using programming to plot routes around New York City and the famous Route 66 and look at how to debug any errors made.

**In P.E**, inside, we will be learning a traditional American folk dance. We will learn a sequence of movements and develop our ability to perform with a partner. Outside we will be playing net games. We will practise and improve accuracy and control of racket skills and apply these skills in small-sided competitive games. *Please make sure children have a full PE kit and trainers in school, which are suitable for running in.*

**In Maths**, we start the half term looking at fractions. We will begin to recognise and show families of common equivalent fractions. We will count up and down in tenths and hundredths and start to make links to a decimal format. We will add and subtract fractions with the same denominator and begin to use this understanding to solve problems, which divide quantities into fractions.

### Reading

*All children need to have their reading book and yellow reading record in school every day.*

The reading reward scheme that the children all work towards will be checked on a Monday. Children will need to have read a minimum of 5 times a week at home and that **reading diaries have been signed by an adult at home**. For every week in which they have read 5 times they will receive a sticker for their collection and will be entered into the half termly prize draw!



Our library time slot, as a class, is on a Wednesday.

Just a reminder that:

27.01.20 – Hudson Family Lunch

30.01.20 – Books before Bed

11.02.20 – Safer Internet Day

12.02.20 – FOPS Disco

17.02-20 – 21.02.20 Half Term

