

During this half term our enquiry is:

How do you make theatre?



Throughout this enquiry, the children will explore the world of musical theatre through music lessons, drama activities, art projects, dance and history lessons, gaining a comprehensive understanding of the genre, its roots, its cultural significance, and the roles involved in producing a musical. The children will gain insight into the collaborative nature of theatre, develop their creativity, and understand how art, history, and music come together in the performing arts. The children will have opportunities to virtually visit local theatres and national theatres where they will extend their understanding of how theatre has changed in many ways both locally and nationally. The children will gain a holistic understanding of how musical theatre is made and the myriad of people and skills involved in bringing a production to life as they hear first-hand what the various jobs entail. As artists, they will explore set design; first by making dynamic and energetic drawings in charcoal and then creating imaginative, sculptural sets and scenes in mixed media. The children will also learn about British Set designer, **Rae Smith**, who developed the set for the stage adaptation of Michael Morpurgo's *War Horse*. As musicians, the children will explore the music and musicians of the theatre, including the composers Tchaikovsky and Prokofiez who were inspired by **Shakespeare's** *Romeo and Juliet*. The children will engage in drama to create a 'Play in a Day' which you will be invited to see. Here they will take part in a Set Design workshop with the Northern School of Art. Through their engagement with the Konflux theatre, the children will step into role to join **Richard Burbage**, the loudest, most colourful, and dramatic of Shakespeare's actors as he guides them through thrilling moments from three of the Bard's most famous plays.

Read through the attached knowledge organiser with your child and check they understand the content. You could ask them to explain it to you – 'teaching' you helps them to reinforce their own learning. Quiz facts out of order to check children really know the fact and have not just memorised the order on the page! Follow their own lines of enquiry and questions to discover even more!

Key vocabulary for this unit of learning includes: *Theatre, Maquette, Preliminary, Design, Interpretation, Composition, Foreground, Background, Composer, Librettist, Lyricist, Director, Choreographer, Character song, Action song, Transition.*

Subject	Activities / areas to be covered in school	Possible learning at home
English	<p>We will be studying the work of Shakespeare in English this half term, in particular the play 'Macbeth'.</p> <p>For our main text, we will be reading a version written by Andrew Matthews and Tony Ross, and comparing this to versions written by Leon Garfield, Marcia Williams and, of course, Shakespeare himself. Children will have lots of opportunities to develop their speaking and listening skills through drama performances within our lessons as we take on various roles to help us fully understand the plot and the way in which playscripts work. We will be exploring Shakespeare's use of language and act as word detectives to help us decipher his work!</p> <p>Throughout our English unit and enquiry, children will develop their knowledge of Shakespeare himself and why he is so important to our English heritage.</p>	<p>Watch this clip to find out some interesting facts about Shakespeare - https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/english-ks2-shakespeares-world/z7hxpq8</p> <p>Shakespeare wrote approximately 37 plays. How many can you name?</p> <p>I wonder if you can work out the meaning of any of these famous Shakespeare quotes?</p> <p><i>-If it were done when 'tis done, then 'twere well it were done quickly.</i> (Macbeth, Act 1 Scene 7)</p> <p><i>-Hast thou not dropped from heaven?(The Tempest, Act 2 Scene 2)</i></p> <p><i>-Dost thou think, because thou art virtuous, there shall be no more cakes and ale?(Twelfth Night, Act 2, Scene 3)</i></p>

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Maths	In maths this half term, we will be focusing our learning onto fractions. We will be able to find and recognise equivalent fractions using concrete and visual resources. We will also be looking at improper fractions and how these can be converted to mixed numbers. We will then be focusing our knowledge onto ordering fractions less than 1 and greater than 1. In addition, we will be using this knowledge to order and add and subtract fractions (mixed numbers) with the same and different denominators.	Can you look out for fractions within objects in your home or outside? How are they used? -Have a go at some of the fraction games on the website 'Top Marks'. Make sure they are for ages 6 -11 or 9 - 11 years old! https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Search.aspx?q=fractions -Children should continue to practise their times tables this half term, specifically rapidly recalling them and their related division facts.
Science	In Science this half term, we will be continuing our learning on Properties and Changes of Materials. Children will explore reversible and irreversible changes, how solutions can be separated and investigating melting and freezing points. Lots of our learning this half term focuses on our Working Scientifically skills.	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zryyedm -Explore some of the changes materials can make through the BBC bitesize website!
Physical Education	This half term, Class 9 will be continue to go swimming on a Monday afternoon until week 3. From Monday 20 th Jan, Class 10 will begin their swimming sessions at the Dolphin Centre. During the weeks that your child's class is not swimming, they will take part in school Gymnastics sessions on a Wednesday afternoon. Outdoor PE for both classes will be on a Tuesday afternoon and this term outdoor PE is Pickleball. Pickleball is a fun sport that combines elements of badminton, tennis, and table tennis. Two or four players use solid paddles made of wood or composite materials to hit a perforated polymer ball, over a net. A coach will be teaching this new sport during this term! As the outdoor temperatures are still variable at this time of the year, please ensure that your child has weather appropriate kit. For school PE sessions, the children will need to arrive to school in their school PE kit for these days only, unless they are informed of any changes to the timetable.	How can you be more active at home? Find out more about Pickleball on: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I1DVYeaJWLs
PSHCE	This half term, we are exploring "How can we help in an accident or emergency?" The children will be learning about health and wellbeing, including: accidents, dealing with emergencies and basic first aid. We will also learn when it is appropriate to use first aid and the importance of seeking adult help. While we will learn how to look after other people in an accident or emergency, the children will also learn how to look after their own health and wellbeing during these moments, too.	https://firstaidchampions.redcross.org.uk/about/your-stories/ Take a look at some real-life stories of how children and young people have managed to save people's lives through their use of first aid! I wonder if you have use first aid before. I would really like to hear your experience of it!



<p>Art</p>	<p>This half term in Art, we will learn and explore how designers create sets for theatre. The children will begin by creating Visual Notes in their sketchbooks linked to the work of British set designer, Rae Smith. Inspired by her work, the children will then explore how charcoal can be used to create energetic and expressive drawings. We will then spend time exploring set design and in small groups, composing our own sets based on descriptive sentences. The children will explore how the use of light can alter the audience's interpretations of a scene and finally they will create a three-dimensional set.</p>	<p>Research different theatre shows and look closely at their set designs. What do children like about the sets they can see? Check out the design set of War Horse, by Rae Smith!</p> <p>Follow the link to create your own Victorian toy theatre: https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/members-area/kids/guide-to-victorians/make-your-own-victorian-toy-theatre/</p>
<p>History</p>	<p>In history this half term, we will be discovering the history of theatre by learning about the different eras in which theatre started and progressed to the current modern-day theatre. We will be exploring the Elizabethan era, focusing our learning to the famous and influential actor and play write, William Shakespeare. After researching all about Shakespeare, the children will explore his legacy and how influential he was and still is. The children will learn about the Globe theatre and the links between Shakespeare and the newly reconstructed Shakespeare's Globe theatre. Also, they will find out what happened within the theatre when the audience did not like a particular play!</p>	<p>Explore some local theatre websites and see what is on in theatres near you! https://galadurham.co.uk/ https://www.stocktonglobe.co.uk/ https://www.darlingtonhippodrome.co.uk/whats-on/ https://forumtheatrebillingham.co.uk/</p>
<p>Music</p>	<p>In music this half term, we will be focussing on teaching musical theatre, where children learn how singing, acting, and dancing combine to create an overall performance. The children will learn to identify and recall key features of musical theatre, such as the integration of music with dialogue, the use of dance to enhance storytelling, and the emotional depth conveyed through songs. They will categorize songs as either action songs, which move the plot forward, or character songs, which explore a character's emotions and motivations. Additionally, they select appropriate existing music for their scenes to convey a journey or emotional progression and practice performing in time with their group.</p>	<p>Explore some musicals and listen to the different types of music within them. What types of songs are they? Do you like them? How do they make you feel?</p> <p>Explore the website below which talks you through musical theatre and the different parts of making a musical. https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z3dqhyc/articles/zbhqjvh</p>
<p>Computing</p>	<p>In this unit, children will use physical computing to explore the concept of selection in programming through the use of the Crumble programming environment. Children will be introduced to a microcontroller (Crumble controller) and learn how to connect and program components (including output devices- LEDs and motors) through the application of their existing programming knowledge. Children are introduced to conditions as a means of controlling the flow of actions and make use of their knowledge of repetition and conditions when introduced to the concept of selection (through the if, then structure).</p>	<p>Have you heard of Crumble before?</p> <p>Why not see what you can find out!</p>

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French - MFL	This half term our French lessons will provide the language the children will need to remember, and attempt to spell most of the days of the week, the months of the year and numbers 1-31 in French. By bringing together this new language and recapping previous learning, the children will become more confident in saying the date of their birthday in French.	Have an explore of this BBC Bite size website and revisit numbers in French 1-20. Listen to how each number is pronounced in French and perfect your pronunciation. https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zd4w7yc&zjkqm39
R.E.	In R.E this term we will be answering the question, ' Can we live by the values of Jesus in the twenty-first century? ' Throughout the term children will look into the meanings of different parables within the Bible, interpret what they mean and think about how we might use them today. We will also look into the impact Jesus' and his mission statement has had on modern Christianity. The children will learn how Christians interpret Jesus' teachings and use them in the 21 st Century.	Take a look at some Bible verses online, read them through and ask children how they might be interpreted. Try the ones below to get you started: <i>Love your neighbour as yourself.</i> (Bible Verse) <i>The best way to avoid doing wrong to other people is concentrate on doing of what's right.</i> (Interpretation)