



Dear Parents, Careers and Children,

I hope you had a lovely half-term and enjoyed a well-deserved break. What a busy term we had in Blackman class last term! I am looking forward to another busy term, we have lots of exciting things planned within our Curriculum 😊

Our Connections this term will be focussing on 'Brazil', with a key focus question of 'How has Brazil changed as a result of Colonisation?'. We will be starting this unit of work with a Geography focus. The children will begin by using maps to identify and locate countries within South America. Following on from this, we will then go onto identifying physical features within Brazil and the children will be explaining that Brazil's physical features are grouped into five main divisions.

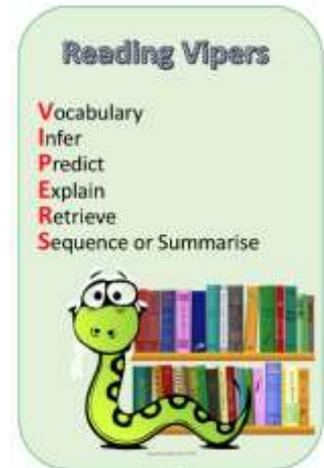
Within History sessions, the children are going to be starting off by identifying similarities and differences between Inca classes and between class structures of different societies, where they will have the opportunity to apply their knowledge from previous topics. Next, the children will be using historical vocabulary (dates, chronology, legacy), where they will be producing timelines of the process of the colonisation. They will have the opportunity to extend their learning here, explaining their choices of why they have visually represented the key events on the timeline in the way they have. The children will also explain changes within history, where they will be identifying changes of typical carnivals and explaining the cause of any changes.

The D.T. unit of work within this topic is going to be very exciting. Once the children have researched the symbolisations of the carnival colours, they will be experiment with different materials to explore how to create a suitable carnival costume (the size of a Barbie/Ken doll). After the exploring and practising of the methods, the children are going to be creating their own product. They will be using materials such as: chicken-wire and straws to create their own costume, according to the given design brief.



Within Maths, this term, we are going to be focussing on Algebra to begin with. This will involve finding one/two-step rules, forming expressions, substituting, solving equations and understanding formulae. The children will also have the opportunity to problem solve and reason within this topic. Following in from this topic, this term, we will then move on to 'Measurement'. This will include solving perimeter and area of compound and irregular shapes, moving onto finding area and perimeter of triangles of parallelograms. Then, we will be working out volume of cuboids. Again, like all topic within Maths, this will allow opportunity for problem solving and extending reasoning skills.

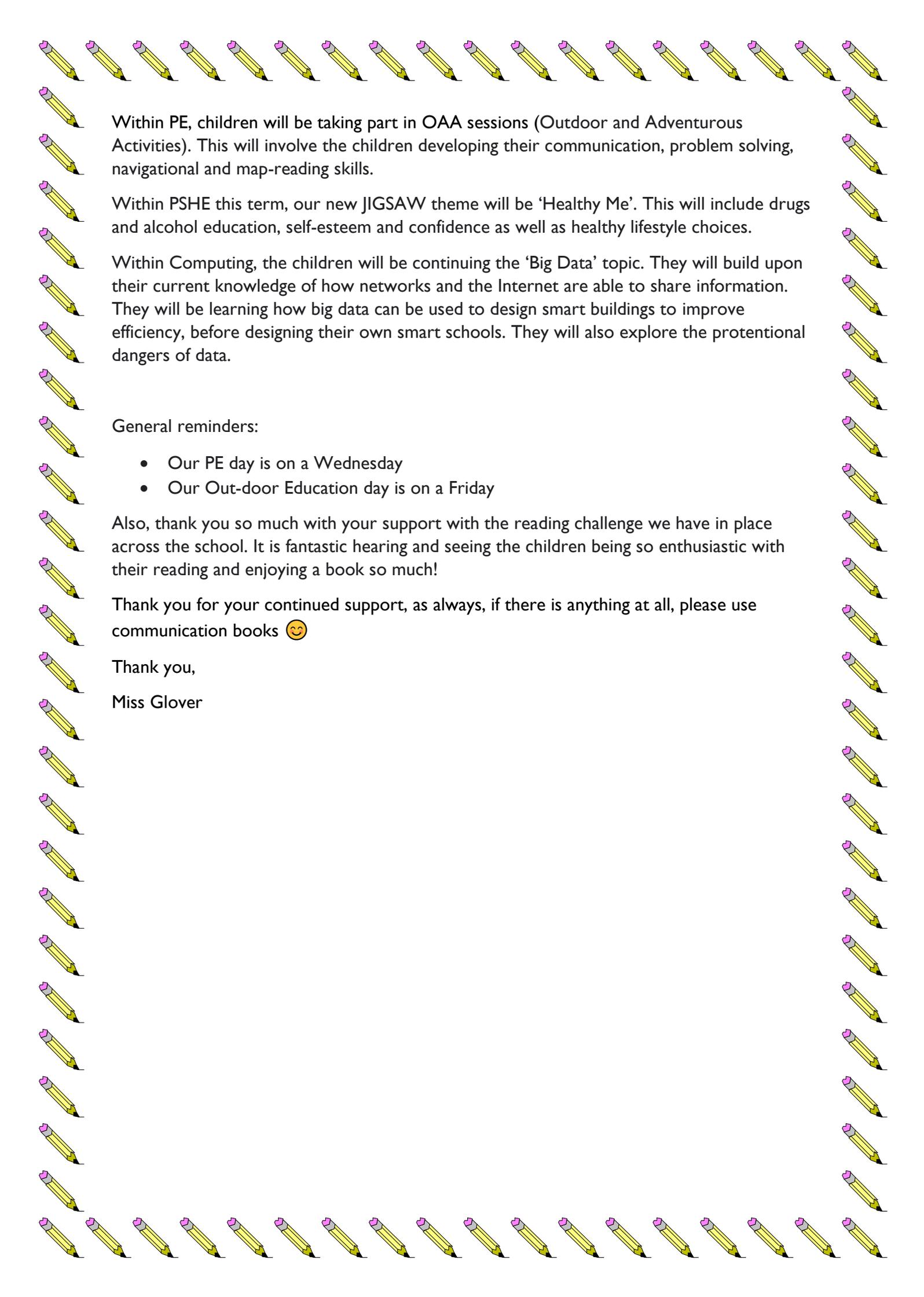
Our class-read for this term will be 'Skysteppers' by Katherine Rundell. The children will also be reading this book within our Guided-Reading sessions. Within our Guided-Reading sessions, the children use VIPER skills to allow them to embed and extend their reading skills. As well as this, once a week, they have the opportunity to read in small groups, within their 'group-reading' session, with a key focus skill. Also, at the end of each day, we all read as a class, which we all enjoy 😊



The first unit of work within English, the children are going to be writing their own imagery poetry, this will be based around the Amazon Rainforest. This links in nicely with the 'Brazil' topic and also our last class-read, which was 'The Journey to the River Sea'. To begin this unit of work, the children will be applying their reading skills to understand poetry and the vocabulary choices etc. Then, they will move onto identifying language features, then they will learn the language features included within poetry in further detail, before planning, drafting, writing and performing their own poem. The next unit of writing will link in with the class-read for the term. The children will be writing a monologue from the perspective of the main character within the story. The children will be learning to empathise within this unit, and this will allow the opportunity for drama sessions. Following on from this, the children will end the term writing a narrative, with an alternative ending, using 'Skysteppers' as a stimulus.

'Light' will be our new Science topic, with a key question of 'Why does my shadow change length over a course of a day?'. This topic will run over the next two-terms and the children will have the opportunity to work scientifically. They will be observing the shadow length over a course of a day and explaining the Science behind this, they will be researching about a key, relevant scientist. Also, the children will be understanding that light travels in straight lines and they will be making simple optical instruments where this will enhance this understanding. The children will also have the opportunity to understand and identify how we see colour.

In R.E, the religion that will be studied will be 'Christianity', with an assessment question of 'Is Jesus the Messiah?'. As usual, within our Religion lessons, this question will allow us to have many discussions and the children will have the opportunity to think and write philosophically. Within RE lessons children begin by understanding a religious test, they then move onto understanding the impact of this and then making connections with the world and their own life.



Within PE, children will be taking part in OAA sessions (Outdoor and Adventurous Activities). This will involve the children developing their communication, problem solving, navigational and map-reading skills.

Within PSHE this term, our new JIGSAW theme will be 'Healthy Me'. This will include drugs and alcohol education, self-esteem and confidence as well as healthy lifestyle choices.

Within Computing, the children will be continuing the 'Big Data' topic. They will build upon their current knowledge of how networks and the Internet are able to share information. They will be learning how big data can be used to design smart buildings to improve efficiency, before designing their own smart schools. They will also explore the protentional dangers of data.

General reminders:

- Our PE day is on a Wednesday
- Our Out-door Education day is on a Friday

Also, thank you so much with your support with the reading challenge we have in place across the school. It is fantastic hearing and seeing the children being so enthusiastic with their reading and enjoying a book so much!

Thank you for your continued support, as always, if there is anything at all, please use communication books 😊

Thank you,

Miss Glover