

A scenic view of cherry blossoms in the foreground and the Tokyo Castle in the background. The cherry blossoms are in full bloom, with pink and white petals. The castle is a large, multi-tiered structure with green roofs and gold accents. The sky is a clear, light blue.

FAR, FAR, AWAY

YEAR ONE

SUMMER
TERM



WE'VE CERTAINLY BEEN ON A JOURNEY!

What a journey we have been on this year, both in terms of lockdowns and our topics! Last term, we traveled the world with Miranda in her hot air balloon and this term, we find ourselves in Japan. On the first day back after the Easter holidays, we received an email from a friend of Miranda's called Nobuko. Along with her friend Mimiko, they wanted to find out about where we live and they sent us a book about where they live. We will be delving into Japanese culture and learning all about their traditions. Towards the end of the term we will be learning about the Olympics as they will be hosted in Tokyo this Summer. We have put together a brief overview of what the children will be learning about, however this is always subject to change as we go with the children's interests.

THIS TERM WE ARE HOPING TO IMMERSE YOUR CHILD
IN OUR TOPIC. WE ARE THEREFORE LOOKING TO...

Carry out a local study to understand where we live and
our connection to the world.

Enjoy a different culture through music, art, film, food
etc.

Learn about traditional Japanese ceremonies and traditions
such as the tea ceremony and the beautiful concept of
Kintsugi - the art of putting broken pottery back together
with gold. Built on the idea that in embracing flaws and
imperfections, you can create an even stronger, more
beautiful piece.

YOU MIGHT WANT TO JOIN IN WITH OUR LEARNING AT HOME BY...

Reading



- Wabi Sabi by Mark Reibstein
- The Great Wave by Veronique Massenot
- One Leaf Rides the Wind by Celeste Mannis

Watching



- Try one of these Japanese animated films - 'Ponyo' or 'Kiki's Delivery Service'.
- Relive 2012 by watching some of the opening ceremony of the London olympics - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ij3sgRG5sPY>

Doing



- Create your own mini zen garden at home.- <https://www.projectswithkids.com/zen-gardens-for-kids/>
- Have a go at some origami - <https://www.origamiway.com/very-simple-origami-for-kids.shtml>

Visiting



- Visit Kew Gardens to spend some time in the tranquil Japanese garden - <https://www.kew.org/kew-gardens/whats-in-the-gardens/japanese-landscape>
- From 17th May, you can visit Brighton Pavillion which has many artifacts and decor inspired by Japan

HERE IS A LIST OF QUESTIONS THAT WE HOPE TO ANSWER THIS TERM...



- Where is Japan? What continent is it in? What surrounds Japan? What is the capital city called? What languages do they speak in Japan?



- What do the houses, schools and buildings look like in Japan? How does Tokyo compare to Maidenbower?



- What traditions do they have in Japan? How do they compare to traditions we have?



- What is the Olympics? When did they start? What events are there?



HOW CAN I HELP?

Have you been to Japan? Do you have any photos, artefacts or tales which we could share with the children?

Do you have any broken plates,, cups, vases etc that we could use for Kintusugi ?

Encourage a family discussions around the dinner table about what they have been learning about Japan.

Plan a Japanese banquet for dinner one night - can the children write the menu, take orders or even try making place names by writing family names in Japanese!.

