

# Year 5 Pentecost 1 Newsletter

Wow, I can't quite believe that we're starting the last term of Year 5 already...hasn't the year flown?! I hope you all had a wonderful Easter break and enjoyed your well-deserved rest. We have lots of exciting topics and lessons planned for this half term and I can't wait for us to get stuck in with them!

## English

### Non-Chronological Report

To kick-start our new topic, mountains, we will be researching how mountains are formed and finding out lots of interesting facts about Mount Everest. We will be focusing on using devices to structure our writing (sub-headings and bullet points), modal verbs, parenthesis, relative clauses and causal conjunctions.

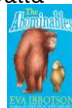
### Diary

As part of our mountain topic, we will look into the life of Sir Edmund Hillary (we learnt about Sir Edmund Hillary as part of our Frozen Kingdom topic earlier this year as he led an expedition to the South Pole). Sir Edmund Hillary was a famous mountain climber and explorer. He and Tenzing Norgay of Nepal were the first people to reach the top of Mount Everest, the highest mountain on Earth. They made their climb in 1953. We will get in role as Sir Edmund Hillary and write a series of diary entries during his climb up Mount Everest. We will be focusing on using fronted adverbials, cohesive devices and a range of parenthesis.



### Narrative

The book focus of this narrative unit is *The Man Who Bought a Mountain*. The Jagurdwa Mountain is home to so much life: birds, fish, deer, wonderful plants and insects, and Yash, a boy whose love for his mountain and his community is unconditional. One day, however, something arrives which turns his whole world upside down. Now, Yash must fight for his home, his job, the land that he knows so well and the safety of those he loves. The future of the Jagurdwa hangs in the balance – can Yash save his home in time? Is it really possible to move a mountain? We will write our own innovated descriptive narratives based on this story including a range of devices which we have concentrated on so far this year: MAPSO, detailed, descriptive language, fronted adverbials, direct speech, parenthesis, relative clauses and varied sentence types to build suspense.



### Persuasive Letter

Using the book *Abominables*, we will be writing two persuasive letters. A hundred years ago, in the Himalayan peaks of Nanvi Dar, the daughter of an English earl is kidnapped by a huge hairy monster. In a secret valley Agatha Farley is introduced to a family of motherless yetis and devotes her life to their upbringing. She teaches them to speak, tells them stories and insists on polite manners. But as the decades pass, tourists come to the mountains, a hotel is built and yeti-hunters arrive. One in role as a character to the Yeti's, who have kidnapped you, to let you go! We will also be writing a persuasive letter to the world about why we should look after and save our planet. We will be focusing on persuasive language and other devices, such as: repeated words, alliterative words, emotional language, a strong argument, rhetorical questions, colourful and eye-catching fonts and capitalised words.

## Maths

In Maths, this half term we will be embedding Power Maths. As mathematicians, we will be focusing on:

### - Decimals

In this unit, we will focus on the formal methods of addition and subtraction of numbers with up to three decimal places. We will also consolidate our understanding of how to multiply and divide decimal numbers by 10, 100 and 1,000. Confidence and flexibility will also be developed during this unit through the use of problem-solving questions when exploring the most efficient ways to work with decimal numbers.

### - Geometry (properties of shapes)

In this unit, we will develop geometric reasoning alongside key measurement skills. We will practice using a protractor to measure the size of an angle in a meaningful context. The skill of measurement is developed alongside reasoning and calculating to allow children to make predictions, to check their calculations and to discuss the properties of shapes and angles that they are to explore.

## R.E

Our focus for RE this half term will be Transformation. We will be reflecting on and discussing what the words 'transform' and 'energy' mean throughout the topic. We and the world we live in are full of energy which can be transformed to good use for us and the natural world. We will look at how fire, wind, water and sun are all natural sources of energy. As humans, we too have energy that can be transformed to good through using our minds, our time and our energy for the well-being of others.

We will also be holding a multi-faith week during this half term where we will focus on and learn about the religion Islam.

## Topic – Am I On Top of the World?

Our topic this term will focus on mountains. Throughout this topic, we will have a keen geography focus looking at UK and World mountain ranges, the features of mountains, how mountains are made, mountain climates and mountain travel (tourism). If any of you have recently climbed a mountain, we would love to know all about it and see some family pictures!

Here is an outline of our learning for this half term:

In **week one, as geographers**, we will be learning about the features of mountains. Although the mountains around the world are very different from one another, they share many of the same features. Which features do you think all mountains have? Which ones might only some mountains have? We will be learning these key features of a mountain: Valley, foot, slope, summit, snow line, tree line, outcrop, face, ridge, peak and plateau.

In **week two, as geographers**, we will be finding out how mountains are formed and the different types of mountains. We will be focusing on fold mountains, volcanic mountains, plateau mountains, fault-block mountains and dome mountains. Do you know any names of these types of mountains or where they are located around the world?

Then, in **week three, as geographers**, we will look at where mountains are located in the UK and where mountain ranges are across the world. Did you know that the longest mountain range on Earth is called the **mid-ocean ridge**? Spanning 40,389 miles around the globe, it's truly a global landmark. About 90 percent of the **mid-ocean ridge system** is under the ocean! We will be using atlases and grid references to locate different mountain ranges around the world.

In **week four, as geographers**, we will look at the climate of mountains and how this changes the further up a mountain you travel. We will also use the location of the mountain, to the equator etc to determine the climate.

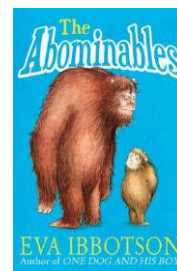
In **week five, as geographers**, we will learn about the impact tourism has on mountainous regions. We will focus on some of the more popular destinations, such as The Alps. The population of The Alps increases at different times of year when the number of visitors increase and this has both positive and negative impacts. Tourism has economic, social and environmental impacts e.g. more people; economic – more funding, more expenditure on resources; environmental – less space, increased noise, increased damage to resources.

In **week six, as geographers**, we will learn about Albert Bierstadt. Albert Bierstadt is a famous artist who made small on-the-spot paintings of the landscapes he encountered. He used the small paintings (as well as photographs taken by his brothers) to create paintings that were immense in scale and grandiose in effect. His colours were applied more according to a formula than from observation: luscious, green vegetation, ice-blue water, and pale, atmospheric blue-green mountains. We will produce our own art based on Albert Bierstadt's style.

Next half term, **as historians**, we will be looking at the Greeks and the Olympics. What do you already know about this topic?

## Guided Reading

Our Guided Reading text for this half term is *The Abominables* by Eva Ibbotson. As readers, we will be reading this text as a class and answering a range of different questions relating to this text. We will be paying particular attention to retrieval questions and considering the authors choice to support our understanding of the text.



A hundred years ago in the Himalayan mountains, the daughter of an English explorer is abducted from her mountainside tent by a huge hairy monster - none other than the infamous Yeti. Luckily the intrepid Lady Agatha takes her kidnapping in her stride, and soon discovers that although he is huge and hairy, the Yeti is not so terrifying after all - he's simply a concerned father who needs help raising his loveable and eccentric family of not-so abominable snowmen.

In a peaceful hidden valley, Lady Agatha sets about a happy new life bringing up the Yeti children, teaching them to speak and insisting on perfect manners. But as time moves on, the valley is threatened by the arrival of helicopters, tourists and property developers, and Agatha, now an old lady, begins to worry about the safety of her naive and innocent charges, who she fears will be captured by the Yeti-hunters.

Luckily two courageous children, brother and sister Con and Ellen, turn up in the nick of time to help her. Together with an ingenious lorry driver they form a plan to help the Yetis escape to the safety of Agatha's ancestral home in England, Farley Towers. On the entertaining road trip which ensues, the Yetis (and their faithful pet Yak) find themselves mixed up in all kinds of unlikely adventures, their impeccable courtesy and kindness leading them to get involved in everything from liberating animals from the zoo to rescuing a lost child in an Alpine blizzard. But what will await them on their eventual arrival in England?

## Science

This half term, we will continue our topic is '**Properties and changes in materials**'. As part of this unit, we will be investigating a range of materials and their properties. We will be learning about thermal conductors and insulators and investigate how well ice cubes are insulated in different materials. We be investigating soluble and insoluble solutions and observing how temperature can affect dissolving. We will be separating mixtures through filtration, magnetic attraction, evaporation and sieving. Finally, we will end the unit with learning about reversible and irreversible changes in our own investigation.

# How can you help?

## Weekly Homework

- Maths and English homework will be set weekly on Century. Homework will be set on a Friday and will need to be completed by the following Friday. If you have any trouble accessing Century or would prefer a paper copy, please come and see me and I can arrange this for you.
- Every week your child will receive spellings. The spelling test will take place on a Friday morning. Please practise these spellings with your child at home!
- Spelling Shed – please ensure your child is accessing this regularly at home, there are certificates and rewards for children who access this! If your child has misplaced their login, please let me know.
- TT Rockstars – please ensure your child is accessing this regularly at home too, it is extremely important that they regularly practice and apply their multiplication and division knowledge.
- Remember to read every night with your child and sign their diary too!

**Thank you for your continued support and if you have any questions about your child's learning or progress, please don't hesitate to contact me.**

**Miss Beach**