

# Year 4 Lent 1 Newsletter

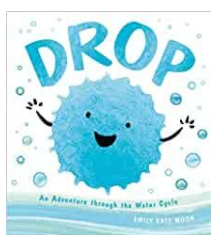
Happy New Year! I hope you had a wonderful Christmas break.  
I am looking forward to sharing our new learning this half term.

## English

This half term as writers, we will be focusing on:

### Explanation of the water cycle

Linking to our science topic and geography topic, we will be learning about the water cycle and producing our own explanation text to demonstrate what we have learnt.



### The Lost Happy Endings

For the majority of this half term, we will be looking at 'The Lost Happy Endings' by Carol Anne Duffy. This is a fantastic book about a witch who wants to steal all of the happy endings from children's bedtime stories. The book contains some wonderful illustrations that we will use to write setting descriptions. We will also use the story to write dialogue between characters to help us to practice punctuating speech accurately. Finally, we will use the ideas in the book to rewrite some popular fairy tales with an alternative, less-happy ending.



## Maths

In Maths, we will continue to look at multiplication and division including factors and products. We will then use these skills to calculate the area of rectangles and compound shapes. Towards the end of the half term, we will move on to length and perimeter and converting between different units of measurement (mm, cm, m and km)

## R.E

### Galilee to Jerusalem

In this branch, pupils will consider Jesus' question to Peter, 'Who do you say I am?' They will reflect on Jesus as the servant Messiah and how he announces the Kingdom of Heaven to those at the edge of society. We will consider how Jesus serves others and discuss how Christians can follow this example today. What could this mean for their lives and the lives of their local communities? We will consider the claim 'The miracles that Jesus worked were signs that the Kingdom of God was beginning. They expressed his love for humankind and reaffirmed his mission'

## Guided Reading

Our Guided Reading text is The Iron Man by Ted Hughes. This is a fantastic story with great description sections and action sequences. It also gives the children a chance to discuss how the iron man is treated and what moral issues this raises.



## Has Glossop Ever Been Underwater

Our topic this half term will focus on Rivers including how they are formed, their role in the water cycle, how they contribute to modern day life and learning some of the major rivers around the world.

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

In **week one, as geographers**, we will be answering the question 'How are rivers formed?'

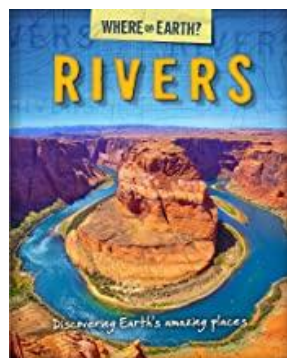
In **week two, as geographers**, we will be identifying the main features of a river including the source, tributaries and meanders. This lesson will include a walk down to the River Etherow to look for 1<sup>st</sup> hand examples.

In **week three, as geographers**, our learning question is "'Why are rivers important'. In this lesson, we will look at how most of the world's major cities were built next to a river and why.

In **week four, as geographers**, we will be learning about flood plains and how they are formed. This will involve us looking at erosion and deposition which we will hopefully have already observed on our walk down to the River Etherow.

In **week five, as geographers**, we will identify the world's major rivers including the Thames, Nile and Ganges. We will be using maps to locate them and identify which countries they flow through. We will also use internet research to find out more information about them.

In **week six, as geographers**, we will visit the River Etherow again to carry out some measurements. We will be measuring the depth at different points and measuring the flow of water by timing a floating object between two points.



## States of Matter

Our science topic this half term is states of matter. This unit is all about solids, liquids and gases. In the unit, the children will identify which state different materials are. They will also look at how the particles are arranged differently in the three different states and how the particles can move around. There will also be lots of investigations and practical work in this unit including evaporating some water and looking what happens when the water vapour is cooled back down, melting and solidifying chocolate and measuring how long it takes puddles to evaporate from the playground.

## How can you help?

### Weekly Homework

- Maths and English homework will be set weekly on seesaw. Homework will be set on a Friday and will need to be completed by the following Friday. If you have any trouble accessing Seesaw 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!
- Times tables practice – please ensure your child is accessing TTRS and timestables.co.uk regularly at home too, it is extremely important that they regularly practice and apply their multiplication and division knowledge. Year 4 children take part in a national times table test in May where they are expected to know all tables up to 12.
- Remember to read every night with your child and sign their diary too!

**Thank you for your continued support.**

**Mrs Brassington and Mrs Fraser**