

## Year 6 Lent 1 Newsletter

Welcome back, Year Six! We all hope you and your family had a wonderful, well-deserved Christmas break and are ready for all the exciting learning experiences that we have planned for this half term!

### English

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

**Persuasive Argument:** using the book – *The Island* by Armin Greder, the children will be asked to write a persuasive argument. They will research the book and the characters and then decide on key points whether the strange visitor should be allowed to stay or sent away. During this unit, we will be focusing on features, such as: present tense, time and logical connectives, emotive language, persuasive phrases and a rhetorical question.

**Diary entry:** Building on from previous knowledge the children will be asked to write a diary entry from one of the main characters from the book. We will look at different points in the book and discuss how each character is feeling at this moment. The children will look at the visitor, how he was victimised, persecuted and isolated. The fisherman, who stood up for the visitor and how his own friends turned against him for doing this. Also, the children will look at the roles the villagers played in this story. How this man changed their views on visitors, the fisherman and how his actions could affect their livelihoods and their children. The children will decide for themselves whose story they want to write about and use their findings to write diary entries from this character's point of view.

**Non-chronological report:** Using the text, *Little People, BIG DREAMS – Harriet Tubman*, we will be looking at her amazing life and how she changed opinions. We will be looking at her early life (childhood), her adult life (being in the Civil War) and her old age. We will be creating a report on them. During this unit, we will be focusing on our structural devices, such as: sub-headings, bullet points, diagrams and fact boxes. We will also be considering our formality and tone and technical and factual language.



### Maths

In Maths, this half term we will be using White Rose Maths, we will be focusing on:

- **Converting Measurements** - During this unit, we will be converting metric and imperial measures. We will be using our knowledge of multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000. We will be also converting from miles to kilometres and looking at the formula to do so.
- **Decimals** - We will identify the value of each digit in numbers given to three decimal places and multiply and divide numbers by 10, 100 and 1000 giving answers up to three decimal places. We will multiply one-digit numbers with up to two decimal places by whole numbers and use written division methods in cases where the answer has up to two decimal places.
- **Algebra** - We begin to look at and use simple formulae, generate and describe linear number sequences. We will express missing number problems algebraically and find pairs of numbers that satisfy an equation with two unknowns. Finally, we will use all this to enumerate possibilities of combinations of two variables and use this to solve problems.

### R.E

Our focus for RE this half term will be the journey from Galilee to Jerusalem. We will study the gospel of St John. In this gospel, St John presents Jesus as the Messiah who reveals his kingdom through seven signs. In the Bible, the number seven indicates perfection. St John emphasises Jesus' divinity through his seven 'I am' statements that are reminders of the revelation of God as 'I am' to Moses in the burning bush (Ex 3:14). In this branch, we will explore the seven signs of John's gospel and one of Jesus' 'I am' statements.



## What is trade and economics?

In this unit, the children find out about how goods and services are traded around the world. They will explore the UK's trade links today and, in the past, finding out about goods imported and exported and the methods of transport used.

In week one, as geographers, we will describe and understand key aspects of human geography, including: types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water in the context of UK imports and exports.

In week two, as geographers, we will locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on Europe (including the location of Russia) and North and South America, we will look at why we only trade with some countries and research why we import from poorer countries.

In week three, as geographers, we will look at geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region of the United Kingdom, a region in a European country, and a region within North or South America in the context of exports from El Salvador.

In week four, as geographers, we will look at fair trade. Why has fair trade been set up? Who does fair trade benefit and why is it important to everyone around the world, not just in the poorer countries?

In week 5, as geographers, we will learn about global supply chains and where different goods come from. We will look at globalisation and how it affects people differently. We will discuss how many big companies are selling their products in different countries around the globe (it is surprising which countries these companies reach).

In week 6, as geographers, we will identify how trading has changed throughout time. We will look at who our main trade partners (and what we trade with them) now and who they were in the past. Why and how they have changed over time?

## Guided Reading

Our Guided Reading text for this half term is *The Night Spinner* by Abi Elphinstone. 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.

Deep within Tanglefern Forest, Moll and her wildcat, Gryff, are waiting for the sign from the Old Magic before they continue their quest to find the last Amulet of Truth and free their world from the Shadowmask's terrible magic. Still missing fellow tribe member, Alfie, and armed only with a mysterious set of clues, Moll sets out on an adventure across the northern wilderness. They must brave the Lost Isles, scale Barbed Peaks and face terrible monsters... with the Shadowmasks draw closer.

'No one does edge-of-seat action like Abi Elphinstone' *Emma Carrol, author of Frost Hollow.*

## How can you help?

### Weekly Homework

- Homework will be set on a Friday and will need to be completed by the following Friday.
- 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 and Miss Tweedie



**St Ralph  
Sherwin**  
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

