

Year 5 Advent 2 Newsletter

Welcome back, I hope you all had an enjoyable half term and are ready to be back at school. We have lots of exciting things planned for Year 5 this half term, including our Space topic in Science and Polar regions topic in Geography.

English

This half term as writers, we will be using *Space and Arctic Explorers* as the theme of our writing. We will be focusing on:

Survival Guide

Through this project, we will learn how to use parentheses, structural features, and appropriate grammar to make our writing informative and engaging. We will explore how to add extra information using parentheses, organise our ideas clearly with headings, bullet points, and diagrams, and ensure their writing is grammatically correct. This project will not only enhance our writing skills but also deepen our understanding of life in extreme environments.



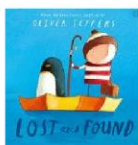
Diary

Using *Shackleton's Journey* by William Grill, we will write a diary entry to retell the events of his Antarctic Expedition. We will use hot seating to enable us to get in role as Shackleton and write a diary entry retelling the events and the challenges he had to overcome during this famous expedition. We will focus on using lots of emotive language, adverbials of time and descriptive language.



Narrative and Letters

Using *Lost and Found* by Oliver Jeffers, we will be retelling this narrative using lots of detailed, descriptive language. We will particularly be working on including colours and sounds within our writing to create imagery and atmosphere. Also, we will revisit creating imagery using MAPSO (metaphors, alliteration, personification, simile and onomatopoeia). The narrative will also include a range of cohesive devices within and across paragraphs by using a range of fronted adverbials (ISPACE).



We will also write letters in role of the boy to the penguin focusing on using informal language, tone and the features of a letter.

Maths

In Maths, this half term we will be using *White Rose Maths*. As Mathematicians, we will be focusing on:

- Multiplication and division
- Fractions

We will also revisit the mathematical skills from Advent term 1.

As mathematicians, we will also be focusing on our times table knowledge, mathematical vocabulary and our reasoning skills.

R.E

Branch Two – Prophecy and Promise

How can the image of a shepherd, used in the scriptures help us to understand servant leadership?

In this unit, we will explore the significance of David Old Testament and for Christians today. We will need to understand the scripture passages that speak of David's life; we will also look at some gospel passages that present Jesus as the fulfilment of the promise to David. The children will begin to use specialist vocabulary to describe and explain the nature of David's kingship in the Old Testament, with reference to the Psalms. They will recognise that David is a model of prayer and use the Psalms to reference this. Finally, they will know that the Rosary is a prayerful reflection on the life of Christ and explain what the joyful mysteries remember.

Where are the Frozen Kingdoms?

Our Geography topic this term will focus on the Arctic and Antarctic regions. Throughout this topic we will have a keen Geography focus looking at climate, explorers and animals. Here is an outline of our learning for this half term:

In week one, as **geographers**, we will be looking at what a frozen kingdom is and where they are found in the world.

In week two, as **geographers**, we will look at how the earth is divided. We will look at different continents in different hemispheres and the effect this has on the climate.

In week three, as **geographers**, we will research how much daylight there is in the polar regions. We will investigate why some places have very little daylight at some points throughout the year.

Week four finds us researching the geographical similarities and differences of the Arctic and Antarctic regions. We will consider why some things are similar and why some are different based on their locations.

In week five, as **geographers**, we will consider how the climate has affected the ice caps. We will focus on the effect of global warming and greenhouse gases.

In week six, as **geographers**, we will research who lives in the polar regions. We will consider people and animals.

Space

Our science topic this half term is all about Space. We will be looking at the different planets. First, we will look at how we know the Sun, Earth and Moon are spherical. We will then look at the planets in our Solar System and their different features. After that, we will look at how the planets move in relation to the sun and the solar system. We will consider why it looks like the sun moves, but it doesn't. Finally, we will analyse the different moon phases.



Guided Reading

Our Guided Reading text for this half term is *Bright Storm* by Vashti Hardy. 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 inference questions and considering the authors choice to support our understanding of the text.

Twelve-year-old twins Maudie and Arthur's world comes crashing in when their explorer dad is reported dead in his mission to get to South Polaris. Not only that, their family name is tainted when he is accused of stealing another skyship's fuel before he died, which means they are unable to inherit their family home.

The twins are sold to a horrible couple in The Slumps of Lontown, but they soon escape with the noble explorer Captain Harriet Culpepper, on a mission back to South Polaris to restore honour to the Brightstorm name.

How can you help?

Weekly Homework

- Homework will be set on a Friday and will need to be completed by the following Friday. If you have any trouble accessing homework online or would prefer a paper copy, please 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