



Wow, I can't quite believe that we're starting the last half term of Year 5 already...hasn't the year flown?! I hope you all had a wonderful 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!

Year 5 Pentecost 2 Newsletter

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 investigate 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 on 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 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.

Maths

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

- Decimals – adding and subtracting decimals across one, decimal sequences and multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000.
- Negative numbers – we will be exploring negative numbers in real-life contexts, including temperatures, distances above and below sea level and floors in a building that go underground.
- Converting units - Children first encountered kilograms in Year 3 and kilometres in Year 4. This small step revisits both units of measure and their relationships to grams and metres, respectively.
- Volume - In this small step, they learn that volume refers to the amount of three-dimensional space an object takes up, and they measure volume using cubes. Children make simple shapes with interlocking cubes and describe the volume of each shape in terms of the number of cubes. They then look at pictorial representations and work out how many cubes there are in each shape, including counting the cubes that cannot be seen in the picture. They then find the volume of a variety of shapes, using both concrete and pictorial representations, using the fact that each cube has a volume of one cubic centimetre (written 1 cm³).

R.E

Our focus for RE this half term will be dialogue and encounter. In this unit, we are exploring why the Bible is so important for Christians and how it guides their faith and daily lives. Children will learn that the Bible was written over many centuries and includes sacred writings from Judaism, the Gospels, and the early Church. We will discuss how Christians believe the Bible is the inspired Word of God, how the Church helps people understand Scripture, and why both the Old and New Testaments are important. Pupils will also reflect on sacred texts in their own lives, learn about Jewish beliefs and traditions, and consider how respect can be shown for holy books.

Am I on top of the world?

Our topic this term will focus on Geography, in particular mountains. Throughout this topic, we will discover how mountains are formed and where they are located around the world.

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

In **week one, as geographers**, we will discover what a mountain is and how they are formed.

In **week two, as geographers**, we will explore where in the world mountains are and what a mountain range is.

Then, in **week three, as geographers**, we will look at the reasons people climb mountains.

In **week four, as geographers**, we will research the climates in mountains and how these vary across the world.

In **week five, as geographers**, we will consider why mountains are such popular tourist destinations.

In **week six, as geographers**, we will learn about Albert Bierstadt and re-create a piece of art in his style.



Science – Does everything that goes up, always come down?

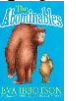
This half term in Science we will look at the different types of forces and how these act upon different materials. We will research how gravity was discovered and who discovered it. We will look at the different effects of resistance (air and water resistance) and the impact this has. Finally, we will look at what pulleys are and how to balance a load.



Guided Reading

Our Guided Reading text for this half term is *The Abominables* by Eva Ibbotson. 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.



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 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