



Melandra Class - Advent 1 Newsletter

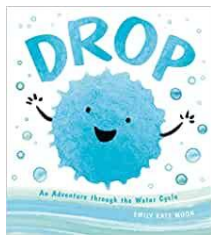
I hope you had a wonderful summer break as I am looking forward to sharing our new learning this half term.

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

During the **Autumn Term**, pupils will develop their mathematical understanding through the key areas of **place value, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, and area.**

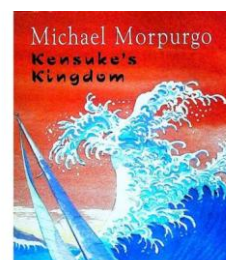
R.E

Creation and covenant: 'The heavens are telling the glory of God' (Ps 19:1). In this branch, pupils will encounter the God who creates and calls a people. They will explore revelation of the Christian belief that all that is, comes from God, the Creation accounts in Genesis, and scientific explanations of the process of Creation. They will explore the call of God and his covenantal relationship with his people first through Abraham and Moses, then through the narrative of the Old Testament.



Guided Reading

For our Guided Reading this half term, we are going to be developing our inferential and retrieval skills. As we become more confident with this, we will work towards timed exercises and more independent question answering. To build these skills this half term, we are going to be reading Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo.



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?'

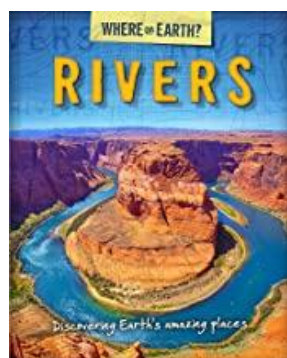
In **week two, as geographers**, we will be identifying the main features of a river including the source, tributaries and meanders. This lesson will include a walk down to the River Etherow to look for 1st hand examples.

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.



Science: Year 3 Year 4



Science

Animals: Movement and nutrition

Exploring the role of skeletons and muscles, learning how the body uses energy and what constitutes a balanced diet.



Science

Materials: States of matter

Investigating solids, liquids and gases by exploring the properties of different states of matter and how materials change state.

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 will take part in a national times table test in June 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 Boardley and Mrs Healey