

YEAR 5 NEWSLETTER

Driving Question: How can we save Lake Titicaca from the negative impacts of urban development?

Aspiration value: Belonging

Term 1 September-October 2020

Geography

This term we will have a big focus on geography. Our work will centre on non-European countries, specifically South America. We will look at the physical geography of the continent and delve into the different biomes that exist there. Our project focus will consider the impact of urban development around Lake Titicaca (the highest lake in the world). Here we will consider the effect of people and pollution on this area of the world. We will then present our ideas on how we can reduce the impact of humans.

Key vocabulary: South America, human and physical geography, environmental, regions, latitude, longitude.

At home: You could use Google Maps <https://www.google.co.uk/maps> or discover new locations on Google Earth <https://earth.google.com/web/>

Literacy

Our class novel will be *The Boy in the Back of the Classroom* by Onjali Rauf which we will use to complete reading activities around inference and finding information from a text. We also will be learning the fable *The blacksmith and his dog*. The children will take part in shared writing based on this text before innovating the story independently. In grammar activities we will focus on ensuring pupils know the key word classes and use basic punctuation in every sentence (capital letters, full stops, commas etc.)

Key vocabulary:

- Noun - person (David), place (Banbury, park) or thing (chair).
- Adjective - describing word
- Verb - an action / doing word
- Adverb - word that modifies or qualifies a verb (quietly, late, soon)
- Preposition - a word that tells you where or when something is in relation to something else (E.G. before, on, under)
- Determiner - determines the kind of reference a noun has (the, a, every)

At home: Ensure your child reads aloud to you on a regular basis as this will increase their fluency and vocabulary now they are in Upper Key Stage 2. Make a list of new words they come across and look up their meaning using a dictionary then try to learn to spell it too. Why not play the PiXL Unlock vocabulary games on the free App (login details are in their homework books.)

Maths

This term we will be focusing on revising times tables. Secure knowledge of these underpins many of the concepts we will learn later in the year. We will also be furthering our knowledge of place value, going up to millions. We will be rounding to 10,100 and 1000 as well as developing a deeper understanding of negative numbers. Addition and subtraction will extend to include 4 digit numbers. Later in the term we will look at graphs and tables, in particular how they are used every day in bus and train timetables.

Key vocabulary: digit, estimate, approximately, nearest, round, exchange, interpret, compare

At home: Please practise times tables. You can do this on the Pixl App. The login details will be in their homework books to remind you. This is a super fun and competitive App which the children will love.

Physical Education

To kick start this term, pupils will be learning new skills to improve their long distance running, stamina and pace. We are planning to run a marathon over this term in as shorter time as possible! Pupils will also be learning skills to build their strength and stamina through fitness training. This will help pupils to run longer distances and to form healthy lifestyle habits. PE will be taught outside so please ensure that your child has the appropriate clothing as the weather can be changeable.

Please ensure that your child has their PE kit in school every day. PE Kit is **white t-shirt, black shorts or jogging bottoms and trainers**. Please ensure that your child has a **black sweatshirt**.

For your child's safety, earrings must be removed before any PE lesson and long hair tied back.

Science

This term we will focus on forces, exploring the effects of air resistance and the effects of friction. We will be developing our investigation skills by planning scientific enquires, taking measurements and recording data. We will also be considering the effect of levers and pulleys on objects and designing our own system of levers and pulleys to complete a task.

Key vocabulary: resistance, friction, gravity, force, surface, pull, spring, levers, pulleys

Useful websites:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar>

REMINDERS AND DATES:

Homework and Spellings: Homework will be sent via Seesaw on a Friday and due in the following Thursday. Homework can be completed on Seesaw or in their homework books.

Dates:

Tuesday 1st September	Inset Day - school closed to all pupils
Wednesday 2nd September	Inset Day - School closed to all pupils
Thursday 3rd September	Term 1 begins - school open for all pupils in years 1-6 in Full school uniform
Friday 18th September	Summer Home Learning project/s due in to share
Friday 23rd October	End of term 1
Monday 2nd October	Term 2 begins

Here is a copy of our class text for the beginning of this term:

The Blacksmith and his dog

In a remote village, there was an elderly blacksmith who had a faithful dog. Day after day, the blacksmith sweated profusely at the forge. He eagerly chopped the wood to feed the ferocious fire. He energetically puffed the bellows to make it roar. He beat the glowing metal to make the shape. He bent the bar to show the horse.

Of course, he also cooled the iron the fix the shape in the great water butt outside. It hissed like a snake, sending a plume of steam into the stifling air.

All the while, the faithful dog slept, as usual, in the corner. But when the blacksmith eventually sat down for his dinner, the dog promptly woke up.

"Lazybones!" huffed the blacksmith, "You sleep while there is work to be done and you only wake when there is food to be eaten."

The moral of this tale: Lazybones, who prefer sleep or play to hard work, run the risk of hunger.