

YEAR 5 NEWSLETTER

Driving Question: How can we save Lake Titicaca from the negative impacts of tourism to ensure a sustainable future?

Driving Question 2: How might we create a system to move the Uros totora reeds from the island to the boat?

Aspiration value: Belonging

Term 1 September - October 2021

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 tourism and 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 on the environment using a green screen presentation.

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 other side of truth" by Beverley Naidoo. We will use it to complete reading activities around inference and finding information from a text. We also will be learning the fable *The Ants and the Grasshopper*. 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 and spend some time on Lexia? These will both help support your child's fluency in reading and extend their vocabulary.

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 culminating in rounding to 10,100, 1000, 10,000 and 100,000. Addition and subtraction will extend to include 5 digit numbers. Later in the term we will begin looking at fractions, focusing on equivalency, converting between improper fractions and mixed numbers (e.g. $\frac{3}{2} = 1\frac{1}{2}$) and adding and subtracting fractions.

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 in term 1 is forces, exploring the effects of friction and air resistance. 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:

On the Oak National Academy's website there are lots of resources to support with learning over the summer to get you child ready for their next year in education. You can find out more by following this link:

<https://www.thenational.academy/summer-learning-support>

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

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

In year 5 we are delighted that we will be partnering with Greatworth Hall Farm. Each class will have hopefully have 2 trips in the year (TBC), the cost will be approximately £16.50 for both trips per child. Dates to be confirmed.

REMINDERS AND DATES:

Homework & Spellings: This will be **sent home** every **Friday via Seesaw** and is **due** in on the **Thursday** of the following week. Homework can be completed on Seesaw or in their homework books.

Dates:

Thursday 1st September Inset Day - school closed to all pupils

Friday 2nd September Inset Day - school closed to all pupils

Monday 5th September Term 1 begins - school open for all pupils

Friday 21st October End of term 1

Monday 31st October Term 2 begins

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

Model Text

The Ants and the Grasshopper

It was autumn time. The leaves were frosty and the ground was hard as an axe blade.

The ants were busy moving grains of wheat from their store into their stronghold of the anthill.

They selected the grain that looked the freshest.

They shuffled along in their army ranks.

They placed each grain with care and precision.

A grasshopper happened to hop by. It was cold and almost starving for it had not had a nibble in weeks. It stopped and asked the ants if they would share a morsel.

'What were you doing this summer?' asked the ants who had been busy all summer long, storing food for winter.

'Why I was busy singing all day and all night,' replied the grasshopper.

'Well then,' said the ants with voices of superiority, 'as you kept yourself so busy all summer with singing, you can keep yourself busy all winter by dancing.'

Indignantly, they shut their food store and disappeared into their nest.