



Year 5 - Spring Term 1

Happy New Year! We hope you have all had a fantastic Christmas and enjoyed celebrating with family and friends. We are delighted to welcome all the children back and look forward to engaging in some high-quality learning throughout this next half-term. We have lots of exciting trips and events planned, as listed below. We are particularly excited to welcome parents into school to participate in an end-of-topic workshop to celebrate the wonderful work we will have been doing in our Geography unit, Extreme Earth, this half-term.

Important Dates:

Tuesday 4th January – Extreme Earth launch day
Friday 21st January - Volcanologist visit
Monday 7th February - Chester Zoo Trip
Wednesday 9th February – Year 4 Parlour –
Mayor
Thursday 8th February – Parent Workshop –
2pm
Tuesday 1st February – Mark Perks – Ex Chorley
Councilor visit for PSHE



French

We will continue to develop our confidence of reciting numbers and colours in a wider range of contexts including using our art skills to make a tertiary colour wheel and labelling and describing in French, as well as describing people's appearances using colours.

English

In English, we will be using our Extreme Earth topic to develop our writing skills, whilst applying our Geography knowledge and understanding. Over the half-term, we will focus on three different genres including poetry, newspapers and explanation texts. Throughout our poetry unit, pupils will read and explore poems about volcanoes and learn a poem by heart to perform to others. We will then explore figurative language and create our own examples of similes, metaphors and personification before writing and performing our own poems. Our newspaper report unit will begin by reading and exploring 'First News', a child friendly newspaper, allowing pupils to explore the language and structural features needed to write their own report. We will continue to develop our understanding of relative clauses and learn how to use vocabulary such as *then*, *after*, *that*, *this*, *subsequently*, *firstly* within paragraphs. Pupils will then become newspaper reporters to write about a real-life volcano eruption. The last genre will focus on using our geographical understanding to write explanation texts.

Reading

During the next half-term, we will begin reading our class novel; Journey to the Centre of the Earth by Sarah Courtauld. Pupils will develop their love of reading through our new whole school initiative 'Chatter Books' where pupils are given time to share their reading for pleasure books and discuss reading preferences with their peers. We will continue to provide pupils with the opportunity to read a wide range of texts across the curriculum. In Guided reading sessions we will be focusing on the higher order skills of inference and deduction, as well as summarising. We will be reading and exploring a range of texts linked to our R.E and geography unit.

We will also read and explore a short story based in Pompeii.

Maths

We will begin the half-term looking at fractions and deepening our understanding by learning about them in real-life scenarios. Throughout the unit, we will identify, name and write equivalent fractions as well as identify and convert improper fractions and learn how to multiply fractions. Furthermore, we will look at decimals including reading, writing, ordering and comparing them, and understanding how to convert them to fractions. Finally, we will look at percentages. We will recognise and understand the percentage symbol and learn to write percentages as fractions. We will also solve problems which require knowing and using percentage and decimal equivalent.

Science

This half term we will continue our 'Properties of Materials' topic with the focus on learning about mixtures as well as reversible and irreversible changes. We will carry out an investigate to further explore properties of materials and use our results as evidence to explain why some materials are best suited to different uses.

RE

We will develop our knowledge of Hinduism focusing upon explaining Hindu beliefs about Krishna and what stories about Krishna might teach Hindus. We will learn about the festival of Holi and use our art skills to show how this is celebrated.

PSHE

In our PSHE sessions we will be focused on rights and responsibilities, we will be looking at the bias within the media and how that can impact people's opinions. We will be looking at legal age limits and why these are in place.

Music

This half term we will be continuing our Samba drumming. We will continue to learn about the beat and rhythm in the music and how to improvise and play within a group.

Topic

This half-term our topic is Extreme Earth. We will be completing a Geography unit looking at volcanos and earthquakes around Australasia. We will open the unit with an exciting launch day and, later, experience a visit from a volcanologist, who we hope will be able to inspire the children with her first-hand experience of working with volcanos. We will use maps, atlases, globes and digital computer sources to find and locate major cities that are affected by earthquakes and volcanos. We will learn all about the devastating impact both earthquakes and volcanos can have and what causes them to occur. We will ask and answer questions such as, why do earthquakes seem to occur in some countries but not in others? We will also use and interpret live data to understand similarities and differences between events of physical geography.

ART

In art we will create sculptures of volcanos - inspired by our half-term unit Extreme Earth. We will use a wire framework to provide stability and form and use papier mache to construct our volcanos. We will also use and create colours of the natural, built-up world to complete our designs.

Computing

In computing this half-term, we will be learning about using search engines more effectively to find information out about other areas of the curriculum. We will develop our understanding of using filters to search technologies effectively and appreciate how results are selected and ranked.

PE

In PE we will focus on gymnastic, developing our control and technique of a range of movements including: balances with one, two, and three points and a variety of jumps, hops and rolls. We will work then with others to create a short sequence using these movements. Using, peer-assessment to evaluate each other's work we will then edit and improve our sequence to achieve a better outcome.