



Autumn Newsletter

September 2023 Year 5/6

Happy new year! Welcome to the area for those year 5 children, and welcome back to our year 6 children. We have lots of activities planned for you all this coming term.



Knowledge Mats: We have key concepts linked to our topics that we want the children to remember called 'sticky knowledge'. We will introduce new units with a knowledge mat for the children to be introduced to the vocabulary we shall be using in each unit, as well as facts they should know. Please help your child to read these mats and recall knowledge from them. Any extra research done at home will be very much welcomed in at school, we will be delighted to see it!

Mountains: Year 5 and Year 6 Knowledge Mat		
Subject Specific Vocabulary		Exciting Books
altitude	Height measured above sea level.	
avalanche	A large mass of snow and ice detached from the mountain slope and heading downhill in a sudden movement. <i>(Burr)</i>	
block mountains	A mountain formed by natural faults in the earth's crust.	
fold mountains	Mountains that form mainly by the earth's crust folding on top of each other as they are pushed together.	
glaciers	A slow moving mass of ice which carves valleys into the mountain.	<i>(Ideas for home research)</i>
gorge	A narrow valley between hills and mountains, typically with steep rocky walls and a stream running through it.	Did Hillary and Irvine successfully make it to the summit of Mount Everest, or did they die trying?
mountain range	A series of more or less connected mountains arranged in a line.	Have a go at climbing Roseberry Topping, and see if you can find a fascinating fact from the National Trust's page.
mountaineer	A climber of mountains, especially for sport.	Can you look at the highest mountain within a mountain range? Mount Everest is 29,029ft or 8,848 metres tall within the Himalayas.
peak	A pointed top of a mountain or ridge.	Can you find out about animals and insects that have adapted to living at high altitudes?
		The highest mountain on the seabed is called Mauna Kea, which stands at 4,207metres above sea level. Where is it located?

Topic- This autumn term our topic is mountains. We will be looking at how they are formed, where mountain ranges are located around the world and how high they are. We shall learn about the mountainous habitat and how life survives in such difficult conditions.

Science and PHSE: Across the Autumn term in Science we shall be studying the unit 'Earth and Space' and 'Electricity'. We shall be learning about the position of the Sun; the Moon and the Earth are in relation to the solar system and how night and day are created. We will be looking at circuits when we learn about electricity and we will be using skills learnt in Design Technology with Mr Ormerod on a Monday. In PHSE we shall be looking at 'Being Me in My World' which explores the role of the child within the community. The following half term, we look at 'Celebrating Difference' which identifies differences across cultures.

RE: We shall be exploring Buddhist beliefs and the eight-fold path to help us understand the diversity of lifestyles and cultures around the world. We shall even try some meditation!

Reading: Please continue to hear your child read at home, or sign their book if they have read independently. Ideally, the children will be reading at least three times a week at home. There are a range of prizes they can win based on the number of times they have read at home, and it will also help them progress through our whole school reading chart.

PE: Every Tuesday and Friday your child will need to bring their PE kits in school which is a pair of trainers, a pair of black or navy shorts/jogging bottoms and a red T shirt. Please can you ensure your child has the necessary kit and that if they require an inhaler that they have it with them.

Homework: On Tuesdays your child will receive their Literacy homework which is due in on Wednesday. On Wednesday they will receive Numeracy homework

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which is due in on Thursday. On a Friday they will receive both Literacy and Numeracy homework which is due in the following Monday.

Spellings: In Miss Foster's literacy classes spellings are given out on a Monday, which they will be tested on a Friday. Mrs Boag's receive theirs on a Friday, for a test on the following Friday.

It is important that your child completes the homework set as it supports the work that they do in class. Please contact any of the teaching staff if there are any problems with the homework that has been set.

Residential visit to the Lake District: St John's in the Vale Residential Meeting is Tuesday 5th September at 3.15pm for those parents of children going.



Head Boy and Girl: All the children in year 6 are invited to put themselves forward to being voted as Head boy and girl for this academic year. The assembly where the children can read their speeches out to the rest of school is generally held towards the end of September. If your child wants to be considered, they may find it helpful to write a speech explaining why they feel they would be good at the role and what they have to offer. They may want to keep this speech at school so they are ready for the assembly. The children will be told

when the assembly will be in good time so they can have time to practice their speech.

Bikeability: We will be continuing to run our bikeability sessions during the week commencing the 2nd October for 4 weeks. Bikes can be provided for the children, however if they have one they can bring themselves, please do so. They will be required to bring warm, suitable clothing to wear whilst outside. There will be consent letters sent to those children who have been identified to complete the course, without these being completed the children cannot take part. They also need to be in school every day for the week they are participating so they can pass. If they will be absent for an appointment for example, it is important you can let us know so we can change the week they will do it. There has also been a parent's guide shared on the year 5 and 6 page on the school's website for parents to view. Any questions, please contact Miss Foster.

As you can see, we have a very busy term ahead. We hope the children are as full of energy as we are to embrace this first term this academic year!

Thank you for your continued support.
Miss Foster, Mr Ormerod and Mrs Boag.