

Year 5 Spring Update

2nd Half Term



Welcome back! We hope you all had a relaxing half term and are feeling refreshed and ready for more exciting learning opportunities available in Spring Term 2.

Although we all hope that spring is fast approaching, whilst the weather is unpredictable, it is important that your child comes to school every day with a warm, waterproof coat with a hood that is clearly named. It is school policy that children wear the appropriate school shoes with their school uniform – trainers are only to be worn on PE days.

Can we please ask that students have the necessary equipment for lessons: one pencil case with the usual range of writing and recording materials, including a pencil and black/blue pen, coloured pencils, a rubber, a sharpener, and a ruler.

Topic The Amazing Americas



Geography

We will use a range of aerial images of the Earth to identify geographical features such as countries, continents, volcanoes, rivers and impact craters. We will refer to globes and maps to make their identifications. We will identify the countries of North/South America and explore the capital cities comparing climates and geographical features. Children will investigate the different time zones of the Americas and compare to other times zones around the world. We will use the eight points of a compass and six-figure grid references with the use of Ordnance Survey Maps. Major mountain ranges of South America such as the Andes will be looked at including the active volcanoes of the Andes recapping on tectonic plates and how mountains are formed. We will be finding out about trade and industry in South America with exported goods from countries such as Argentina, Chile, Peru, Brazil and Columbia. Lastly we will compare our local area with a region in North and South America discussing similarities and differences.

Science

This half term we will be identifying the effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction that act between moving surfaces, to do this we will be carrying out different experiments with one looking at friction as a force and the second with how we measure friction. We will be going to Les Quennevais school to do this learning.

English

In writing, we will begin the term looking at *The Man Who Walked Between the Towers* – The story of a daring tightrope walk between skyscrapers, as seen in Robert Zemeckis' *The Walk*, starring Joseph Gordon-Levitt. Children will learn the skills required to write a Newspaper report about an event that's taken place.

Our second text will be *The Great Kapok Tree*. The author and artist Lynne Cherry journeyed deep into the rain forests of Brazil to write and illustrate this gorgeous picture book *The Great Kapok Tree*. One day, a man exhausts himself trying to chop down a giant kapok tree. While he sleeps, the forest's residents, including a child from the Yanomamo tribe, whisper in his ear about the importance of trees and how "all living things depend on one another" . . . and it works. The children will be working towards writing a persuasive piece to convince people to fundraise for Jersey Zoo to help protect animals effected by deforestation throughout this learning journey.

In Guided Reading we will continue to read *Kensuke's Kingdom*.

Maths

In Maths this half term, we will continue our learning about multiplication and division. We will then move on to working with **Decimals**. The children will learn to read and write decimal numbers. Followed by comparing decimal numbers to find which is greater and smaller. Pupils will then add and subtract decimals before turning decimals into fractions. They will finish their decimals work by rounding decimals to the nearest whole number and decimal position.

Following this, the children will complete their maths focus on **Percentages**. In this topic, children will be taught to compare quantities and expose percentages as an amount out of 100. The unit finishes by having pupils convert fractions to hundredths, both by expanding fractions and by simplifying them.

For the children to work successfully through fractions, decimals and percentages it is vital that they have a secure grasp of their times tables and division facts. This should continue to be practised frequently through homework and the use of Times Table Rockstars. Using this on a regular basis allows them this time to practise. The game <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button> is also useful.

P.E. days are on Monday and Friday.

For our Indoor PE session on Mondays, children will be practicing and developing core PE skills in Real PE. In these sessions there will be a focus on the development of agility, balance and coordination, healthy competition, and cooperative learning.

On a Friday afternoon, Lauren, the Sports Development Officer will be working with us on our netball skills.

Religious Education

Key question for this enquiry: How significant is it for Christians to believe God intended Jesus to die? We will learn to question whether God intended Jesus to be crucified or whether Jesus' crucifixion was the consequence of events during Holy Week.

PSHE (Personal, Social, Health, Education)

'Healthy Me' is our topic which will focus on the following areas: Smoking, Alcohol, First Aid, Body Image and Relationships with food. These areas will aim to provide the children with the opportunities to reflect on what makes a happy and healthy lifestyle.

Music

In music this half term we will be continuing to follow the 'Charanga' scheme and will be focussing on rap music and its origins. Along with this unit, the children will explore the famous rap song that many of us know 'The Fresh Prince of Bel Air'.

Homework

We will continue to send out weekly homework in the yellow folders. Please ensure that the homework is completed and brought into school each Monday. In addition to this, Year 5 children should be reading for at least twenty minutes per night.

Diary Dates:

Wednesday 21 st February	International Mother Language Day.
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day.
Thursday 14 th March	Swimarathon.
Wednesday 13 th March	Science lesson at Les Quennevias School (am) - Please let us know if you can help on this trip.
Friday 15 th March	Comic Relief (Red Nose Day).
Tuesday 19 th March	Parental Consultations (Face to Face)
Thursday 21 st March	Parental Consultations (Online)
Wednesday 27 th March	End of Term.

Useful Websites

Maths - <https://nrich.maths.org/>

Spelling - <https://www.spellingshed.com/en-gb/index.html>

Topic - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/ztyr9j6>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/ztyr9j6/resources/1>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/english-ks1-english-viking-sagas/zkyqd6f>

We look forward to a busy and enjoyable half of the Spring Term.

Thank you in advance for your support this year,
Mrs Reed and Mrs Sohna

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