

# Year 5's Newsletter

Teacher: Mr Blackwell; Teaching Assistant: Mrs French



First, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your commitment, dedication and support with our online learning via Showbie over the last few weeks. The engagement from the children is testament to their resilience and desire to learn, improve and flourish.

## Topic

This half term we will be learning about Britain from 1900 - 1918. This was a period of great change and turmoil. As part of this topic, we have already found out about the Suffragettes and their struggle to obtain votes for women. I have been impressed with how well the children have engaged with a variety of primary sources to find out more about the movement and its key members. The other major event, which took place during this period, was World War I. To begin this aspect of our topic, Year 5 used their research skills to find out what life was like in the trenches. Using their creativity, they are currently working to produce their own models of trenches over the course of the next few lessons. I have already seen some excellent work going into this, some of which I have shared below:

Natnaieal used branches he had collected to build a trench ladder.



Tamarah has used cocoa powder to create the mud!



James has used a wide range of items he has found to start making his trench.



## English



Our English focus this half term will be based around the book 'The Island' by Armin Greder. Year 5 have enjoyed engaging with the first few pages of the book and have made some excellent and well thought through predictions based on the images and the available information. Using 'The Island' for inspiration, the children have put themselves in the position of both the islanders and the man who found himself washed ashore to write some imaginative diary entries. We will be moving on to writing newspaper reports about the events in the book. I am looking forward to seeing the children continue to use different grammatical and literary features to write interesting and exciting reports.

We will also continue to enjoy daily guided reading lessons and dedicated spelling, punctuation and grammar sessions every week. Children should still be reading at home each day and books are available via Oxford Owls and Reading Eggs.



Our class novel this half term is 'War Horse' by Michael Morpurgo. The children have been enjoying listening to this story and using it as another tool to find out about World War I.

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## Maths

In maths, we will be looking at a variety of topics this half term. Forthcoming topics in this subject include: Fractions, decimals and percentages, properties of shapes and statistics. We will be introducing children to a plethora of problem solving activities and hope to see their resilience in tackling such problems continue to grow.

In order to further support learning, please can you ensure children are accessing linked maths activities on mathletics. This is a fantastic resource which reinforces learning taking place in daily live lessons.

## Online Learning

During this period of national lockdown, we will continue to use Showbie as our online learning platform. As I have already mentioned, I have been impressed with the engagement with the learning via this so far. Please ensure that children are checking the weekly timetable and are online ready for the daily live sessions.

As part of our commitment to creative, non-digital learning, I have been setting the children a variety of creative projects. Making the most of the weather this week, the children made some great snow sculptures. Please see a selection of these below:



Leen's  
'Snow  
Rabbit'



Isa made an  
igloo.

Eylul and  
Elcin made  
a deer.



Aimee created a  
beautiful 'Snow  
Robbin'.

I am looking forward to seeing the children continue to develop their learning this term and look forward to continuing to work in partnership with you to support this. I would like to thank you in advance for your continued support with your child's remote learning. This vital engagement will have a highly positive impact on their performance.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact myself (Mr Blackwell) or Mrs French.