

Year 5's Newsletter

Teacher: Mr Blackwell; Teaching Assistant: Mrs French



Welcome back! I hope that everybody had a lovely break and were able to enjoy the improved weather! It has been so pleasing to see the children return to school with such positive attitudes to their learning. We have lots of exciting activities taking place during this term details of which are outlined in this letter.

Topic

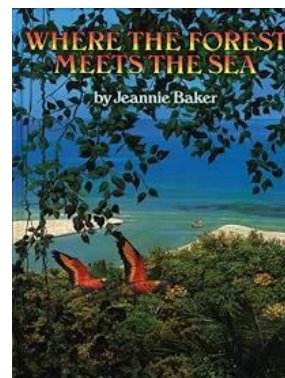
This half term, in our geography topic, we will be learning about volcanoes, mountains and the distribution of resources around the world. This topic will provide excellent opportunities for the children to practise and refine their map reading skills and gain a clear understanding of the processes involved in the formation of mountains and volcanoes and volcanic eruptions! Later in this topic, the children will be finding out about how resources are distributed around the world and the impact this has on populations living nearby. Already, the children have produced some excellent work related to tectonic plate movement and how this results in the formation of mountains and volcanoes. Using the iPads, the children have produced their own augmented reality volcanoes and recorded presentations discussing the key features of a volcano. This topic has gripped their imaginations and I am looking forward to seeing how their learning continues to progress.



English

Linking to our Geography topic, our English focus this half term will be based around the book 'Where the Forest Meets the Sea' by Jeannie Baker. Year 5 have enjoyed engaging with the first few pages of the book and made some excellent and well thought through predictions based on the images and the available information. Using the book for inspiration, Year 5 have found out about Daintree Rainforest in Australia and have started to produce information texts about this location. The children found out some interesting facts about the rainforest and enjoyed using Google Earth to explore the location in more detail. As part of this work, we will continue to look at a variety of grammatical features and sentence structures to enhance the children's writing. I am looking forward to seeing them continue to improve at using these.

Alongside this, we will also continue to enjoy daily guided reading lessons and dedicated spelling, punctuation and grammar sessions every week.



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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.

Schools of Tomorrow

During this term, we will be continuing to work with Nottingham Contemporary as part of the 'Schools of Tomorrow' project. The children will be working with Charlotte Tupper, the artist linked to Edna G. Olds to continue to explore their creativity through the use art investigations and art activities.

Prior to the Easter break, Year 5 enjoyed experimenting with line, shape and light and were given the opportunity, through the resources provided, to explore, follow their own lines of enquiry and investigate. It will be great to see them continue to develop as we continue with the project.



iPads

As I am sure you are already aware, the children in Year 5 have all been given their own iPad for use in school. These devices will be used to enhance the learning experience of all of the children and help to bring lessons to life. As mentioned previously, the children have used a number of apps to create their own augmented reality volcano ensuring that they include and label the key features on their diagram. They were then able to use this to record a presentation about volcanoes while seeming to be stood next to one!

This is an exciting journey and the skills and learning the children develop through the use of the iPads will be invaluable as they continue their education and into the world of work.

As always, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support. Working in partnership will provide the best possible outcomes for all children.

Mr Blackwell