

Shaw Wood Academy

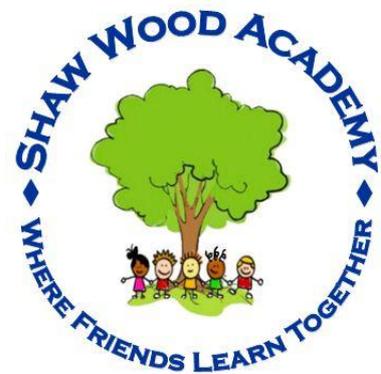
Where Friends Learn Together & Everyone Matters

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15th January 2018

Spring Newsletter - Year 5

Happy New Year! We hope you had a relaxing Christmas break and you are looking forward to an exciting half term.

Topic

Our topic for this Spring term is 'Hop on Down Under' (Australia). The children will be learning about where Australia is located in the world. They will be learning to research and identify physical and human features of the country. Using this information, they will investigate why the major cities are located in certain parts of the country and then will compare this to other cities in the world. In addition, the children will learn about the original settlers in Australia and how Captain Cook 'discovered' Australia. Finally, the children will be looking at Aboriginal art work and identifying the stories within the art. They will design and create their own art using the same techniques.

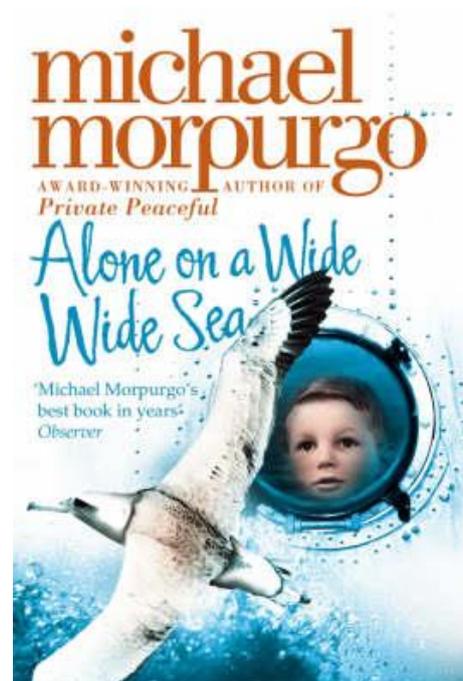


English

Our class book for this term is *Alone on a Wide Sea* by Michael Morpurgo. This is a wonderful book about an orphaned boy (separated from his sister) who is shipped from England to Australia during the 1950s. He has an extraordinary journey from being held captive as a slave on a working farm to finding a new family in Australia. This will hopefully give the children in insight into the migration of children in the 1950s and 60s, and allow them to write reflections and debate on whether this was the right thing to do.

This week we are reading and performing poetry about Australia, starting with *My Country* by Dorothea Mackellar. One of our main focus areas is spelling.

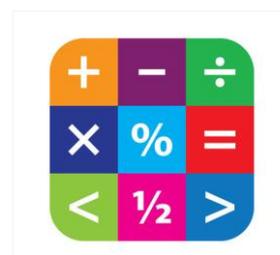
Many of the children struggle with basic key spellings from the KS1 and Year 3/4 list. We have attached this list to the newsletter, please spend time with your child identifying unknown spellings and support them to learn them at home.



Maths

This term the children will be learning:

- Perimeter and area
- Addition and subtraction
- Multiplication and division
- Reading and writing the time to the nearest minute
- Solving problems related to time



Family homework

We would like you to create a 3D model of anything to do with Australia. This could be a landmark (Sydney Opera House) or an animal, or even a famous person. There will be a prize for the most creative idea. Please could your child bring the model in no later than Monday 5th February.

PE and swimming

Currently year 5 do PE on a Friday afternoon. From the week beginning 19th February (first week back after half term) this will change as the classes will start swimming lessons. Please make sure your child has returned their form. Swimming is a National Curriculum statutory requirement and all children must participate.

- Mr Gelsthorpe's class will go swimming on a Monday afternoon and have PE on a Friday afternoon.
- Mrs Taylor and Mrs Scoffield's class will go swimming on a Friday afternoon and have PE on a Wednesday afternoon.



Homework

Friday – English handed in following Friday

Friday – Maths handed in following Friday

Please ensure that your child completes their homework and reads every evening. This will reflect in their 'Good to be Green' behaviour tracker card and counts towards sessions at the end of term fun day.

Uniform

We would just like to remind parents of the importance of the children wearing and adhering to the school uniform. This is:

- A pale blue polo t-shirt or shirt
- A dark grey, black or navy trousers, smart shorts, skirt or pinafore
- A navy blue cardigan or jumper (no hooded tops)
- Navy or black shoes (no trainers)

Thank you for your continued support

The Year 5 Team