

Year 5 Newsletter

January 2022

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

G'day! This term our topic is Australia. Australia is a fascinating country to study geographically, and is an excellent choice of non-European country to focus upon. We will develop our geography and writing skills focusing on Australia's vast landscape, landmarks and cities. We will spend time exploring how Australia is split into different territories. Each territory has



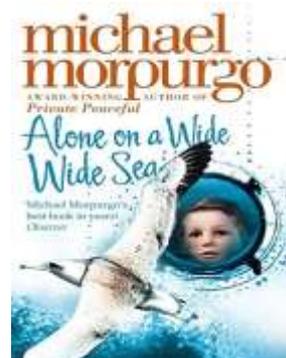
a range of deserts, rainforests, mountains and lakes so we will discover how changeable the climate and vegetation is as you cross Australia! We will spend time looking at Australia's vast range of natural resources before discovering why most human settlements are on the east or south coast. This topic gives us the opportunity to write non-chronological reports as well as letters of persuasion discussing which place is best to live and why. Our challenge this term is to create a new settlement answering such questions as; Will the climate be suitable for humans? Is there a local water supply? What transport links and job opportunities are there? We are really excited and can't wait to get started.

Australia Day

We are planning to celebrate Australia Day which falls on Wednesday 26th January this year!

Reading

We will be studying [Alone on a Wide Wide Sea](#). This lyrical, life affirming novel from the best-selling author [Michael Morpurgo](#). It focuses on six-year old Arthur Hobbhouse who is shipped to Australia after WWII, losing his sister, his country and everything he knows. Children will discuss the hardships of emigration whilst building upon reading skills such as inference, retrieving information, summarising and working out word meanings in context.



Maths

Children are currently working on Statistics involving a range of charts and graphs previously taught as well as new concepts such as line graphs and two-way tables. Then we will move onto written methods for Multiplication and Division in Maths, including long division and column multiplication, when multiplying and dividing by two-digit numbers. It is crucial that children have an excellent knowledge of times tables as this is key to this topic. Please continue to encourage your child to learn them at home and use Times Table Rock stars! After this, they will move onto a shorter topic of Statistics before Christmas. In maths lessons children have many opportunities to solve problems and explain the reasoning behind theirs and others calculations.

Science



Our Science topic is based around 'Animals including Humans'. Children will learn about the life cycle of a human being. They will investigate the development of babies and compare the gestation period of humans and other animals. They will learn about the changes experienced during puberty and why these occur. The final investigation will be about the changes to the body as humans get older, as well as comparing the life expectancy of different animals.

Homework and Reading

Homework is given out on a Friday and collected the next Friday. It should normally consist of maths and English that is linked to our learning that week in class. They can ask questions and be given support by members of the Year 5 team.

In the first week of January, we gave out new reading books based on their most recent assessments. Please ensure your child reads at least 3 times a week and sign their reading diary. Children know to bring their book in each day to be checked and signed. We are continuing to monitor and reward children with stickers- towards earning a book from the shop.

PE

PE for year 5 is on a Friday. Please ensure that your child comes to school with the correct kit- black or navy joggers/tracksuit bottoms, a white or pale blue plain round neck t-shirt, a plain navy or black tracksuit top (without a hood), school jumper or fleece and trainers. If the weather allows it, we will try to have the children outside for PE sessions. If children do not come with the correct kit or uniform, it may impact on their number of fun day sessions.



Swimming will commence later on in the year and you will be notified via a letter.

Please continue to encourage your child's use of home learning platforms.

www.educationcity.com

<https://trockstars.com/>

<https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk> (*Bug club and Abacus maths*)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary>

<http://www.spellingshed.co.uk>

thank
you

The Year 5 Team