



Year 5 Newsletter

February 2022

Welcome back! We hope you had a relaxing break and you are looking forward to another fantastic half term. Hopefully the weather will soon get better and brighten up!

This half term we will continue our topic about Australia. We have already looked into Aboriginal Australian's way of life and from this the children were able to create their own fantastic dreamtime stories and artwork all about native Australian animals and the problems they had to overcome. Australia Day was a huge success and children really immersed themselves in the traditional music and dance.



We will now be looking at modern day Australia. This will be heavily Geography-based learning, ranging from climates, human and physical features and population.

Writing

This topic gives us the opportunity to write poetry inspired by 'My Country' by Dorothea Mackellar. We will learn about how to effectively use descriptive language when writing our very own poems about Australia. After that we will be writing some factual texts such as non-chronological reports as well as letters of persuasion, discussing which state is the best is to live and why.

Reading

We will continue to study *Alone on a Wide Wide Sea*. The children are really enjoying this gripping story by best-selling author Michael Morpurgo. Some have even been inspired to read more of his books at home, or ask for one for their birthday! It brings lots of discussion around the difficulties Arthur Hobhouse faced when he was forced to go on a gruelling journey to Australia and survive brutal captivity on a working farm. As always we are working on how children can find clues in the book to answer inference questions. This is a difficult skill to learn but this book is bringing great opportunities to practise!



Maths

Children are currently working on mixed multi-step word problems. They are having to decide which of the four operations is needed to solve the problem systematically and use appropriate methods. This takes resilience and we are constantly encouraging children to read questions carefully to make sure they have a good understanding. There are many trick questions out there and we want to make sure our Year 5s can't be fooled! Next children will be exploring fractions in Maths lessons. We will look at equivalent fractions, adding and subtracting fractions with the same

and different denominators. We will then move onto dividing fractions and working with mixed and improper fractions; as well as, relating fractions to decimals and percentages.

Science

Science Week 2022 is coming up this half-term! Shaw Wood will be taking part in Science Week from the 14th – 18th March. This year, the theme is 'Growth' so children will be doing many exciting activities in line with this. A challenge will be set for children to complete at home – watch this space! Also, during this week will have the exciting opportunity to join in with a 'Silly Science' workshop, involving many fun investigations.



Homework and Reading

As usual, homework will be 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.

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.

Year 5 staff have recently set up homework and reading clubs at lunchtime, providing an opportunity for your child to complete all of the above in school. We are encouraging children to take responsibility for their own time management and make sure they do not miss any fun sessions due to a lack of homework.

PE

PE for year 5 is now on a **TUESDAY**. 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