

# Year 5/6 Spring 1: Perilous Peru

Dear Parents and carers,

Happy New Year! We hope you had a wonderful Christmas break filled with joy and relaxation. As we begin the New Year, we are excited to embark on an inspiring and engaging term in Year 5/6. This half term, we will be exploring the theme of Peru, linking our learning across a range of subjects. We look forward to another exciting term full of discovery, creativity and learning. We thank you for your continued support and look forward to welcoming you into school again at the end of the half term to share our outcomes from this theme.

Many thanks,

The Year 5/6 team

## Theme

As we begin this new term, we are delighted to share that our Year 5/6 theme will focus on Peru. Through this fascinating topic, the children will explore the country's diverse geography including the Andes Mountains, the Amazon rainforest and the coastal regions. They will explore the physical features of these areas, learn about the climate and ecosystems and investigate the human geography, including the culture, traditions and way of life in Peru. In art, we will be inspired by Peruvian landscapes and replicate these in the style of David Hockney using technology to inform our final pieces. In music, the children will explore the rich sounds and rhythms of Peru, focussing on traditional instruments such as the panpipes and charango. They will listen to and recreate Peruvian Folk music, providing an opportunity to develop their rhythm, composition and performance skills.

## Key notices:

Y6 Parental SATS meeting - Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January  
6:00pm

Letters will be sent out shortly to invite a range of Y6 children to a small group revision session with their class teacher to foster confidence and independence.

Please remind you children that their PE kits should be in school for the whole week and taken home to be washed at weekends.

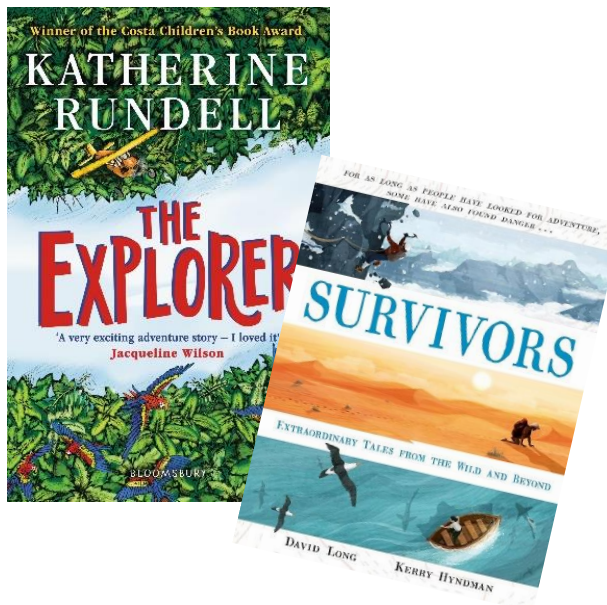
## English:

This half term, our English curriculum will be inspired by *The Explorer* by Katherine Rundell, a captivating story set in the Amazon Rainforest. Using this rich text as a foundation, the children will develop their writing skills through a variety of writing forms. They will craft their own rainforest adventure narratives, drawing on themes of survival and exploration, they will develop informative guides to surviving in the rainforest drawing on information from the text. Additionally they will create detailed fact files about Amazonian animals and develop their own animal that would survive in this habitat. As well as this, they will write diary entries and letters from the perspectives of the book's characters. These learning outcomes will enhance their creativity and writing proficiency while deepening their understanding of the Amazon's unique environment.

You can help support your child by encouraging additional reading (both fiction and non-fiction) that links to this topic.

## Maths:

In maths this half term, we will be consolidating key skills and exploring new concepts. The children will recap their understanding of fractions, decimals and percentages, ensuring they can confidently make connections between these areas. We will also focus on measurement and geometry, including practical applications and problem-solving tasks. Alongside this, the children will continue to practice their arithmetic skills to improve speed and accuracy. To deepen their mathematical thinking, we will unpick strategies for solving 2-3 step problems to ensure they can apply their arithmetic skills to more complex problems.



# Year 5/6 Home Learning

If you can help with reading in school and hold a Hampshire Education D.B.S please can you let your class teacher know. It really does help and the children love it.

## **Spellings**

Spellings will be tested every Friday, with the new words given out after the test.

There will be between 8-10 words that follow the rule we are looking at in class, building on the spelling sessions in school that week.

## **English**

English home learning will be printed and set for children each Friday and due in the following Thursday.

Some children will also be provided with chapters to read to encourage reading fluency and comprehension.

## **Times Tables Rockstars**

Regular practice will help your children become fluent times tables rockstars. Times Tables help with so many different areas of maths and are key for all year 5/6 students! See the back page of this leaflet for more!

Keep an eye out for any competitions or challenges online!

## **Maths**

Maths home learning will be printed and set for the children each Friday and due the following Thursday. This will always link directly to what we have covered in class so if you child finds this challenging, please speak to their class teacher as it's helpful for us to know so we can support where needed.

**Reading** – This year we are really promoting a love of reading as it underpins all learning.

We expect the children to be reading 5 times a week at home. Please can **three** of these times be to an adult and **this needs to be recorded and signed in the planner every week.** We are happy for you to read to your child, share audio books, take turns in reading pages etc but the most important thing is to talk about what has been read.

**WE WILL BE COLLECTING IN ALL PLANNERS ON A MONDAY TO LOOK AT THE READING THAT HAS HAPPENED AT HOME.**

## **Early Morning Activities**

Early morning activities begin at 8:40am and focus on the key skills of reading, spellings, maths and grammar. Please ensure you are here on time to take part!

# Helping at Home

Below are some ideas of what you can do with your child over the next half term to support the learning at school

## **Practise:**

Spelling tests will take place on a Friday. Please support your child by discussing the current week's rules with them and the spellings they are learning. In the back of their planners is a list of words they should be able to spell in KS2.

Please aim for at least 3 sessions on TTRS per week. Please speak to your child's class teacher if your child has forgotten their logon details.

**Talk and explore** (Here are some example questions to generate discussion about what we will be doing at school. Some of these will not be covered at the beginning of the term)

- Which different continents can you name? In which continent would you find...? Which continent would you most like to visit?
- Tell me about California/Peru/St Lucia.
- When at the supermarket, discuss where your food comes from in the world and who might have been involved in getting it from the fields to your trolley.

## **Watch and Play**

Geography games: a sense of location

<https://world-geography-games.com/>

<https://www.geoguessr.com/>

Recap of North and South America

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zyhp34j/articles/zpnwqfr>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zyhp34j/articles/zhpdjsg>

Investigate South America

<https://kids.britannica.com/kids/article/South-America/353792>

Google Earth is also always a brilliant way to explore the world!

## **Read**

Please continue to read with your child at home and discuss the characters and the themes in the stories. When reading, please make a note in their planners yourself, or check that your child has filled in what they have read.

# Why are times tables useful?

**Square and cube numbers**

$3^2 = 3 \times 3 = 9$

$5^2 = 5 \times 5 = 25$

$2^3 = 2 \times 2 \times 2 = 8$

**Factors and common factors**

3 6	4 8	3 6
1 x 3 6	1 x 4 8	1 x 3 6
2 x 1 8	2 x 2 4	2 x 1 8
3 x 1 2	3 x 1 6	3 x 1 2
4 x 9	4 x 1 2	4 x 9
6 x 6	6 x 8	6 x 6

**Calculating volume**

Volume =  $5 \times 3 \times 2$

**Multiples and common multiples**

Multiples of 3: 3, 6, 9, 12, 18, 21, 24

Multiples of 4: 4, 8, 12, 16, 20, 24, 28, 32

**Short and long division**

$$\begin{array}{r} 156 \\ 4 \overline{) 625} \\ \underline{4} \phantom{0} \\ 22 \phantom{0} \\ \underline{20} \phantom{0} \\ 25 \\ \underline{20} \\ 5 \end{array}$$

**Using algebraic rules**

Rule:  $5n - 4$

1st term:  $5 \times 1 - 4 = 1$

2nd term:  $5 \times 2 - 4 = 6$

3rd term:  $5 \times 3 - 4 = 11$

4th term:  $5 \times 4 - 4 = 16$

5th term:  $5 \times 5 - 4 = 21$

**Area of rectangles, triangles and parallelograms**

$(b \times h) \div 2$

Area =  $36\text{cm}^2$

**Short and long multiplication**

$$\begin{array}{r} 853 \\ \times 32 \\ \hline 1706 \\ \phantom{1706} 1656 \\ \hline 16896 \end{array}$$

**Ordering and comparing fractions**

$\frac{2}{3} \times 4 = \frac{8}{3}$	$\frac{3}{4} \times 3 = \frac{9}{4}$
$\frac{8}{12}$	$\frac{9}{12}$

**Simplifying fractions**

$\frac{9}{9} \div 3 = \frac{3}{3}$

**Converting between mixed and improper fractions**

$1\frac{3}{4} = \frac{7}{4}$

multiply

**Finding prime factors**

**Finding a fraction or percentage of a number**

$\frac{3}{4}$  of 48

$48 \div 4 = 12$   
dividing by 4 finds one quarter.

$12 \times 3 = 36$   
multiplying by 3 finds 3 quarters

**Adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing fractions**

$$\frac{7}{4} + \frac{11}{8} = \frac{14}{8} + \frac{11}{8} = \frac{25}{8}$$

$$\frac{25}{8} = 3\frac{1}{8}$$

**Identifying prime and composite numbers**

A prime number is a whole number greater than 1 with no divisors except 1 and itself.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20

**Calculating ratio**

A prize is shared in a ratio of 3 : 4 between Jamie and Dan. If Jamie gets £21, how much will Dan get?

Jamie : Dan  
3 : 4

$21 \div 3 = 7$  (multiply by 7)

$7 \times 4 = 28$  (multiply by 4)

21 : 28