

Year 5/6 Spring 1: Lay of the Land

Dear Parents and carers,

Happy New Year! We hope you had a wonderful break over the Christmas period and you and your children feel refreshed and ready to go again!

Please read on to find out more about our first theme of 2023 which will focus on the Americas.

Kind Regards,

The Year 5/6 team

Mr Todd, Mrs Barker, Miss Stanton, Miss Cook and Mr Jones

Theme

This half term, our curriculum will be based around the Americas. Starting with some atlas work, we will move on to look at physical and human features, climate and the impact the geography has on lifestyle in a variety of different locations on the American continent (California, Peru and St Lucia). We will also look at how the Americas (and the whole world) is linked through economics and trade, and consider what is 'fair' about fair trade.

For computing, we will use information gathered about the Americas to create presentations using technology in different ways. In art, we will produce landscapes and in music we will explore the music of South America with a particular focus on Brazil and Samba and one of the best known South American composers - Heitor Villa Lobos.

English

We will be writing non-chronological reports about the Amazon rainforest, the setting of our driver text *Journey to the River Sea*. We will look at *The Wonder Garden* as an example of a creative way to present reports. We will also consider the use of Palm Oil, a contentious issue involved with rainforest preservation, and write persuasive letters after debating the topic. Finally, we will be writing narratives based on the main character's of *Journey to the River Sea* trek through the Amazon. We will also be linking our driver text to a range of fiction, non-fiction, videos and poetry in our guided reading sessions.

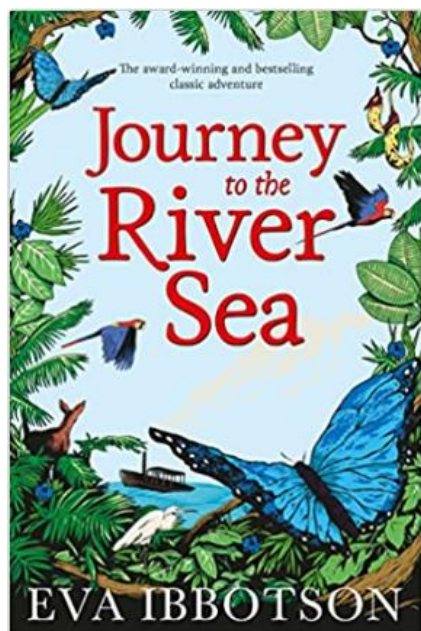
Maths

Starting with learning about multiples, factors, squares, cubes and primes, we will then go on to looking at ratio and measurement before recapping fractions and using the 4 operations.

Key notices:

- Children should bring their planners in everyday and these will be checked at least once a week by the class teacher.
- Year 6 will visit the library on Thursday afternoons and Year 5 Library Days will be Friday,
- **PE days are the following:**
Rabbits: Thursday and Friday
Hedgehogs: Wednesday and Thursday
Eagle: Wednesday and Friday
- Woodpecker: Monday and Wednesday

These days may occasionally change so please make sure your child's PE kit is labelled and in school every day. If your child cannot undertake PE for any reason, they should bring a note explaining why.



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.

The words tested may not be exactly as the words given out but will require children to use their knowledge of suffixes and prefixes too!

i.e. immediate might become immediately for the test!

English

English home learning will be set via Seesaw on a Friday with the expectation that the task will be completed by the following Wednesday.

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 set via Seesaw on a Friday with the expectation that the task will be completed by the following Wednesday.

The tasks that are set will be in line with what the children have been learning that week in Maths.

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

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

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 = 36cm^2

Short and long multiplication

$$\begin{array}{r} 853 \\ \times 32 \\ \hline 1706 \\ 1656 \\ \hline 27296 \end{array}$$

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

$\frac{9}{15} \div 3 = \frac{3}{5}$

Converting between mixed and improper fractions

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

Finding prime factors

5 2

2 2 6

13 2

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 : 28