

Our theme this term is...

On Top of the World!

As **geographers** we will:

Be looking at mountains and how they were formed and shape the world we live in.

This will provide an opportunity to think about the layers of earth and make links with our science regarding the rock cycle .

We will investigate the role of tectonic plates in the formation of mountains.

Research what life is like living, working or playing in the mountains.

Learn independent research and map skills to follow individual interests and lines of inquiry.

As **scientists** we will:

Learn to describe and classify rocks based on their properties.

Compare and group rocks on the basis of their simple, physical properties and formation.

Describe in simple terms how fossils are formed.

Recognise that soils are made from rocks and organic matter.

Gather data and use results to draw simple conclusions.

In **RE** we will:

Continuing our study into Christianity.

We will be learning about what it is like to be the 'People of God'.

In **PE** we will:

Be developing our ball control and team skills to play tag rugby in outdoor PE.

Exploring movement and agility in indoor PE with gymnastics.

As **readers and writers** we will:

Focus on the texts "Cloud Tea Monkeys" by Mal Peet and Elspeth Graham and "Sparky" by Jenny Offill.

These will help us explore the language skills around direct speech, use of prepositions and introducing the present perfect tense.

We will continue developing our fluency in reading whilst thinking about inferences.

As **design technologists** we will:

Be exploring pulleys and levers.

Applying our understanding to design and create an invention to help bring produce down from a mountain farm safely,

In **PSHE** we will:

Continuing with the theme of 'Beginning and belonging'. We will be focusing on ourselves as individuals in our surroundings.

As **mathematicians** we will:

Recall and use all the multiplication facts up to 12x12.

Gain an understanding of written and mental methods of multiplication and division.

Learn to tell the time to nearest 5 minutes, including using Roman numerals.

Investigate the properties of 3D shape, including looking at parallel and perpendicular lines.

As **programmers** we will:

Be making a video presentation.

Use ICT to conduct research about our topic.

In **music** we will:

Sing in a Year Four choir getting ready for our Christmas celebration at the Church of the Good Shepherd.

Dear Parents/Carers

After a great start to the year we are looking forward to the half term ahead. We hope you had a great break and are really glad to see the children come back ready for their learning.

This half term our theme is 'On top of the World' with a geography focus of exploring mountains which combines our science looking at the rock cycle. This builds really well from our history work looking at the Stone Age as the children will be able to deepen their understanding of different types of rocks and why they have such different uses. If you have any expertise or know of anyone who would be able to visit our classes to talk about their knowledge on the subject, please get in touch with Mrs Cowe or Ms Claydon.

In English we will be spending the next few weeks inspired by the story Cloud Tea Monkeys by Mal Peet and Elspeth Graham. It is a heart-warming story set a short while ago in the foothills of the Himalayas following a young girl forced to work on a tea plantation when her mother becomes ill.

Indoor PE will be taking place Monday , please ensure your child has a full kit. Also, outdoor PE will be taking place on Wednesday. Please ensure your child has a full PE kit in school, including something with longer sleeves as the weather gets colder.

Please feel free to come into the classroom at the end of the day if you would like to discuss anything with us.

Kind regards,

Mrs Cowe and Ms Claydon

How to support your child at home

For the homework menu, please select at least one "dish" from each of the courses. These will be returned to school at the end of the half term ready for an open afternoon in the final full week of term (the date is to be confirmed).