



Brooksward School
Curriculum Newsletter
Year 5/6
Spring Term, 2024



Welcome back!

This leaflet is to provide you with some information about the experiences the children will have this term and the expectations we have so they can be successful in Years 5 and 6.

If you need further details about anything in this leaflet then please contact your child's teacher who will be more than happy to help.

We look forward to continuing to work with you during the year so that you child can enjoy school life and achieve as much as they possibly can.

The Year 5/6 Team.

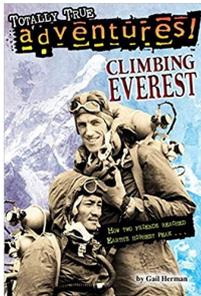
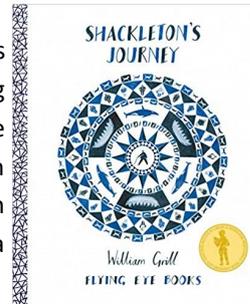
Year 5/6 Staff:

Teachers: Miss Docherty, Miss Regan & Mrs Stevens, Miss Brereton and Miss Morozova

Supported by: Mrs Boothman, Mrs Jain, Mrs Sharp & Mrs Murphy

English

During the first half term, we will be reading Shackleton's Journey by William Grill which is a non-fiction text retelling Ernest Shackleton's landmark expedition crossing the Antarctic from one pole to the other. Linked to the text, in Literacy lessons, we will explore persuasive devices through writing a job application to join the ship as well as writing a newspaper report about the amazing journey.



Following this, in the second half term, we will be reading Climbing Everest by Gail Herman, a book which details Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay's expedition to the highest place on Earth: Mount Everest. Based on this incredible story, we will be writing our own narrative based on the adventure and a balanced argument discussing whether people should in fact be climbing Mount Everest.

In addition, children will continue to take part in reading, spelling, punctuation and grammar lessons as well as regular handwriting practise.

Maths

This term, Year 5 and 6 will be consolidating their written method knowledge for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Year 5 will then begin their Fractions unit whereby they will continue to add and subtract fractions This will set the foundations for next half term, where they will begin to convert between fractions and decimals. Year 6 will complete their unit on Percentages before moving onto Algebra, Ratio and Shape. Both year groups will focus on the three strands of mathematics: fluency, problem solving and reasoning and interventions will be put in place to ensure children have a good understanding of each strand.



Geography

Our topic in the first half term is Frozen Kingdom; in this topic, we will be learning all about the Arctic and Antarctic circles as well as developing further technical knowledge involving the position and significance of latitude and longitude. We will also look at the tropics of Capricorn and Cancer, the Equator and learn about different time zones around the world. During the second half term, our topic is Rivers and Mountains. We will look at the features of rivers, the ways that they change over time and why they are so important to the towns and villages that have developed on their banks. In addition, we will find out the different ways in which mountains have been formed and how they have been shaped over time.



Science



In Year 5, this half term, we will begin by learning about Living things and their habitats. In this unit of work, we will learn about the life cycles of insects, birds, mammals and amphibians. The children will also explore reproduction in different plants, including different methods of pollination and asexual reproduction. In Year 6, children will be classifying animals into different groups as well as looking at microorganisms, which are harmful and helpful. In the second half term, Year 5 will begin a larger topic of work based on Materials. We will be exploring different materials, their uses and their properties, as well as dissolving, separating mixtures and irreversible changes. The children will then explore the properties of materials to find the most suitable material for different purposes. In Year 6, we shall be looking into electricity whilst constructing real-life circuits. We shall also be learning about how different thickness of wires effects the brightness of a bulb.



Art

In art, we learning about masks from around the world. We shall be looking at different cultures, such as Maori, Brazilian Carnival Masks, Japanese Samurai Warriors Masks. We shall be designing our own masks at the end of the topic and performing a fashion show of our wonderful creations!

DT

In the following half term, we shall be creating clothing for a mountain climber, which will link nicely to our topic of Mountains and Rivers. We shall be creating warm woolly hats and snoods, using appropriate materials. As well as this, we shall be teaching the children backstitch and creating embellishments. We might even do another fashion show to perform!



PSHE

In the first half term, we shall be discussing how we can be respectful to all those in all sections of society. We shall look at the topic of diversity and what this means when responding to conflict. In the next term, we shall be discussing human rights and how charities and voluntary groups support those in need.



Computing

In Computing our focus will be e-safety this term: Year 5s will learning about personal data and creating blogs advising others how to keep their personal details safe. Year 6s will be learning about e-safety within the context of digital medial and copyright. They will then use this learning to create a Prezi presentation for a specific audience.

Later in the term, the children will continue developing their knowledge of algorithms and the language of programming using Scratch (Year 5) and Kodu (Year 6).



Music

For this term, we shall be learning about various musical terms such as rhythm, pitch and tone when singing various songs linked to different cultures.

French

In Year 6, the children shall be learning to say what they have done at the weekend and express their opinions in French.

In Year 5, the children shall be learning about sports and how to say what they do and don't like in French.



RE

In RE lessons this half term we will be exploring the concept of life after death. We shall be looking into the main six religions and learning about what their beliefs about this are.



P.E

The children will be working with Coach Dave to learn about the rules and skills needed in different indoor and outdoor invasion games. In Year 5 they will be focusing on hockey and Year 6 will focus on tactics within a range of games). To participate safely in the lessons, the children must bring in a full PE kit on the following days:

Swans: Thursday and Friday

Hérons: Monday and Friday

Mallards: Monday and Thursday

Kingfishers: Monday and Wednesday

Homework

Every week, the children will be expected to complete the following homework:



- Times table or division facts practise - 4 times
- Spelling practice - 4 times (Spellings will be tested on Wednesday in Year 6 and Friday in Year 5)
- Reading - 4 times (Reading diaries will be checked on Fridays)
- One piece of Maths and English to be completed on MyMaths and Teams. (Set on Thursday, due back on the following Tuesday)

Teachers will be rewarding great home learning habits with dojos!