

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the final term in Year 5! Please read on to find an overview of the core learning areas for this half term.

History - Exploring the Industrial Revolution

In this unit, children will explore how the Industrial Revolution impacted the lives of both the rich and the poor. They will learn how harnessing fossil fuels to power engines, factories, and machines fundamentally changed human life.

Key activities include:

- Examining the roles of the iron and textile industries.
- Learning about the development of the steam engine and steam train.
- Discussing the economic and technological benefits of the Industrial Revolution.

Children will also delve into the social context, focusing on how life changed for factory workers during this transformative period.



History - The Victorian Age

In this unit, children will explore the life of Queen Victoria, her role as a monarch, and her influence on the British Empire. They will learn about the political and social aspects of Victorian Britain, focusing on the lives of both the rich and the poor.

Key activities include:

- Examining primary sources to understand life in Victorian slums and workhouses.
- Discussing new legislation and attitudes toward the poor.
- Studying the Great Exhibition and Victorian advancements in technology and discoveries.

Children will also compare life in the 1900s to life today, considering what has changed and what has stayed the same.

KEY VOCABULARY	
Victorian Age	the period of Queen Victoria's reign , from 20 June 1837 until her death on 22 January 1901
Industrial Revolution	the Industrial Revolution began in the 18th century and describes the move from hand manufacturing and human or animal power, to machinery
urbanisation	industrialisation caused people to move (migrate) from the countryside to towns and cities
slum	an urban area where poor people lived in cramped and dirty conditions
cholera	an infectious disease that causes severe vomiting and diarrhoea (caused by dirty water)
workhouse	a place where poor people were sent to live and work : they were like prisons, and people were treated very badly
The Great Exhibition	an international exhibition that was held at Crystal Palace to showcase industrial and technological advances from around the world

Geography – Local Area Study

In this unit, children will engage with a local issue by exploring and analysing our local area. They will:

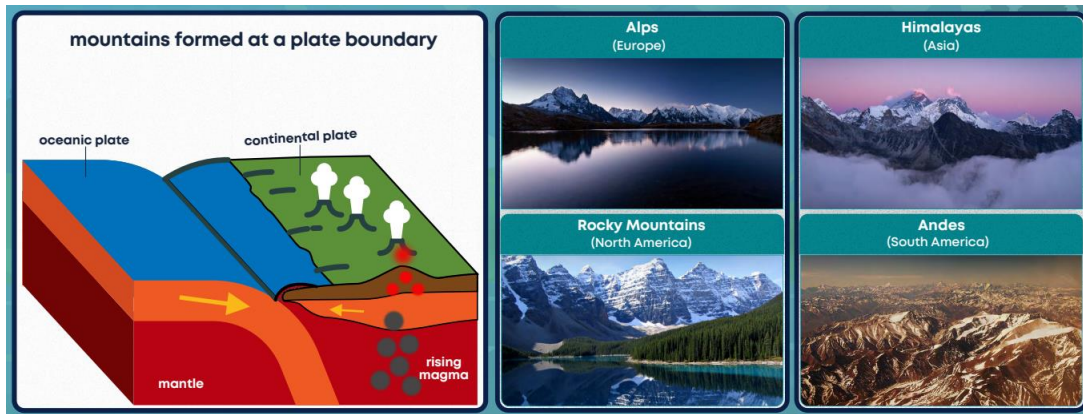
- Look at local maps and sketch their own.
- Collect and analyse data about the area.
- Participate in fieldwork, including drawing sketch maps and gathering data.

Children will present their findings visually using graphs and write to a local councillor to explain the issue they've studied, presenting their data, and suggest possible solutions.

Geography – Mountains

In this unit, children will learn about major mountain ranges around the world. Key points include:

- Understanding that a mountain is a large landform rising above the surrounding land.
- Learning that the Alps are the largest mountain range in Western Europe.
- Knowing the Himalayas are the largest mountain range globally, with Mount Everest being the tallest mountain above sea level.
- Identifying three main mountain ranges in the Americas: the Andes in South America, and the Rockies and Appalachians in North America.
- Discovering that Kilimanjaro in Africa is unique for its height and for standing alone, not part of a range.



Children will use their prior knowledge of geography, examining world and relief maps to identify these mountain ranges. They will improve their map-reading skills and recognize more places and features as they progress.

Science – Astronomy:

In this unit, children will explore key concepts in astronomy. Key points include:

- Understanding that the universe began with the Big Bang 14 billion years ago and is still expanding.
- Learning that galaxies are groups of stars held together by gravity, with our galaxy being the Milky Way and our nearest neighbour being the Andromeda galaxy.
- Understanding gravity as the force that pulls objects towards each other, and how it holds us to Earth's surface and keeps the Earth in orbit around the Sun.
- Knowing the Sun is at the centre of our solar system, which contains 8 planets (4 terrestrial and 4 Jovian), trillions of asteroids, and dwarf planets like Pluto and Ceres.
- Learning about the Moon, Earth's natural satellite, its phases, and that it reflects the Sun's light.
- Children will use this unit to deepen their understanding of the universe and our place within it.



Science – Human Body

In this unit, children will study the changes that occur in the human body from conception through to old age. Key topics include:

- Learning about adolescence and the changes in the body such as growing muscles and bones, the growth of body hair, menstruation, and voice changes.
- Comparing the gestational periods of different animals, including humans, and understanding that human infants need care for many years.
- Recognizing growth stages in both animals and humans to build a fundamental understanding of biology.
- Discussing changes in the human body in old age and the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle throughout life.



This unit builds on their knowledge of how our bodies work and how we care for them

P.E.

This half term swimming will take place on Monday's and Fridays. Please ensure that your child has the suitable PE kit including warm clothing (jogging bottoms and jumper) as we will be going outside in most weather.

Mr Copping