



St Mark's CE Primary School

'Loving to Learn, Learning to Love'

Year 5 Newsletter

Spring 1

Why is the Antarctic so cool?

This half term, we will be exploring a climate which is very different to ours, allowing for different living conditions and species. This topic builds on previous learning from Year 4 on the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn and why certain places have different climates. As part of this topic, the children will take part in a **virtual reality experience** about the Antarctic.

English

This half-term, we will be using the award winning book: 'Shackleton's Journey', written by William Grill.

It brilliantly tells the true story of how Shackleton and his crew managed to survive crossing the frozen heart of Antarctica.

Our key learning throughout this will be targeted towards writing a non-chronological report about an animal that lives in the Antarctic.



Maths

This half term, children will continue solving whole number word problems and learning about statistics and graphs.

Before Easter, all children at St Mark's take an NTS Maths test. We will be using these tests to monitor and evaluate the progress the children have made in Maths this term and support the end of term assessments for each child.

Weekly time table tests will continue. Can we ask that parents support their child further by allowing them to access Times Table Rock Stars regularly.

Reading

We recognise that, at times, reading at home is not an easy task but it does have a great impact on all areas of learning. Thank you for your support with this. To celebrate reading, all children who read at least 5 times a week at home will be entered into the Star Readers prize draw every week for their chance to win a book to take home.

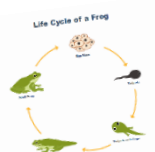
In school, all children will continue to have daily guided reading sessions, as well as reading individually with the class teacher or support staff.

Homework

Please look out for your child's learning log each week. The children will continue to have a selection of homework. Please sign the homework log once your child has completed the task. Homework will be given out every Friday and collected back in every Wednesday.

Science

For our Science topic this half term, we continue with the question, **"Do all living things start life as an egg?"** We will look at various types of animals, such as mammals, insects, amphibians and reptiles, and compare their life cycles.



P.E.

Children in 5J will be having P.E on **Mondays**. Children in 5B will be having P.E. on **Tuesdays**.

Please send your child to school in their P.E Kit on this day

We will be exploring Invasion games this half term. The aim is to develop skilful attacking, a range of ways to defend and team play.