



# Saint Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

## Ladybower Lent I Newsletter

Welcome back Ladybower! We've got a busy term ahead, so let's see what we'll be learning.

### **English**

During this half term, we will be exploring the following genres and texts:

#### **Letter Writing**

Using the book, 'Holes', we will be writing an emotive letter from Stanley to his family explaining about Camp Green Lake but hiding the fact that it is such a brutal place. We will be gathering evidence from the text to support our writing.

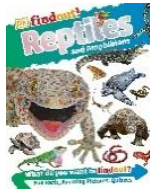


#### **Narrative writing**

We will then be writing a narrative that captures atmosphere and tension and includes dialogue. We will be using the part of the story when Stanley first meets the Warden as the inspiration for our narrative writing.

#### **Non-Chronological Report**

Our last piece of writing is a non-fiction piece and we will be producing a non-chronological report about the yellow-spotted lizard using information from the book and also from other sources.



### **RE**

#### **Galilee to Jerusalem**

Pupils will be able to:

- Recognise that in the Beatitudes Jesus tells his followers important messages about what makes a life blessed.
- Compare Matthew and Luke's description of the new law, or great commandment and make links between the new law, a parable and Jesus' summary of the law and lessons for Christian life today.
- Make simple links between the Beatitudes and the Ten Commandments.
- Describe accurately in sequence and detail what the disciples see at the Transfiguration, saying something about the importance of Moses and Elijah.
- Make links between the seven petitions (requests) of the Our Father and their meaning for Christians.
- Show understanding of how the virtue of either hope or charity (love) links with Jesus' teaching in the Beatitudes.



### **Maths**

Using White Rose Maths, we will be covering the following areas of learning:

#### **Year 5**

##### **Multiplication and division**

- Multiply up to a 4-digit number by a 2-digit number
- Short division
- Divide a 4-digit number by a 1-digit number
- Divide with remainders
- Efficient division
- Solve problems with multiplication and division

##### **Fractions**

- Multiply a unit fraction by an integer
- Multiply a non-unit fraction by an integer
- Multiply a mixed number by an integer
- Calculate a fraction of a quantity
- Find the whole
- Use fractions as operators

##### **Decimals and Percentages**

- Equivalent fractions and decimals
- Decimals up to 2 decimal places
- Thousandths as fractions and decimals

#### **Year 6**

##### **Ratio**

- Additive and Multiplicative relationship
- Use ratio language
- Introduction to the ratio symbol
- Ratio and fractions
- Scale drawing
- Use scale factors
- Similar shapes
- Ratio and proportion problems

##### **Algebra**

- 1 and 2-step function machines
- Form expressions
- Substitution
- Formulae
- Form equations
- Solve 1 and 2-step equations
- Find pairs of values
- Solve problems with two unknowns

##### **Decimals**

- Place value – integers and decimals
- Round decimals
- Add and subtract decimals
- Multiply and divide by 10, 100 and 1,000
- Multiply and divide decimals by integers



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### Science

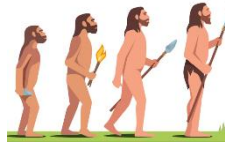


#### Earth and Space

The children will be able to:

- Compare the contributions of Ptolemy, Alhazen and Copernicus to models of our Solar System
- Describe the movement and shapes of the celestial bodies in our Solar System
- Describe the movement of the Moon relative to the Earth
- Explain the causes of day and night and the seasons
- Devise a sundial to tell the time
- Describe some uses of satellites and the problems posed by space junk

#### Evolution and Inheritance

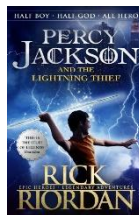


- Explain why there are differences within a species
- Recognise the inheritance of characteristics in plants and animals
- Explain why adaptation is necessary
- Model how natural selection affects population size
- Describe the theory of evolution
- Recognise evidence that can be used for evolution

Our Year 5 pupils in Ladybower have the pleasure of Mrs Barry teaching them their Science topic this half term, so have a look at Derwent's newsletter to see the exciting things they'll be getting up to!

### Guided Reading

This half term we will be reading the book, *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan.



*This story is about 12-year-old Percy, who discovers he's a demigod and must journey across America with friends to find Zeus's stolen master lightning bolt within ten days, preventing a war between the gods, all while facing mythological monsters and uncovering a deeper betrayal.*

We will teach it through the techniques of DERIC (Decoding, Explaining, Retrieving, Inferred/Interpreting and Choice). Children will read both to themselves and aloud to the class to focus on fluency and understanding of the text.

### Geography



#### Would you like to live in the desert?

The children will be able to:

- Summarise the characteristics of a desert biome
- Locate and explore features of deserts
- Describe the physical features of a desert environment
- Explain the different ways humans can use deserts
- Describe some of the threats of desert environments
- Explore the similarities and differences between two physical environments

### How can you help?

This half term, the children in Ladybower will have **Forest School** on a **Thursday**. They will need to come to school in their forest school clothes. Please ensure your child has suitable clothing for the weather, especially if it is going to be cold!

Reading Diaries and reading books need to be brought into school every day. Please read with your child daily and sign their diary.

Homework is set on a Monday and is due the following Monday. Please ensure work is completed neatly and stuck in.

Spellings are tested on a Friday, and a new list is given out on Fridays. Spellings can be accessed on Spelling Shed and the children's logins are in their reading diary.

Spelling Shed/Maths Shed and TT Rockstars - please ensure your child is accessing these regularly at home. It will help to embed their spellings and improve fluency particularly with times tables.