



YEAR 4 CURRICULUM INFORMATION



English

The children will begin the term by writing an **explanation book** on Natural Disasters. During this time, the children will draw on their geographical knowledge to write a non-fiction (information) text which *informs* the reader about a volcanic natural disasters. They will also learn which features need to be included in this text type. Which include: **title, general statement** (what the explanation is about), **key points, paragraphs** and a **summary paragraph** to organise this information text.

After this, we will be using the short animation 'Catch a lot' to write a short narrative inspired by the film. We will revisit the structure of dialogue and portraying character through words and actions.

Writing Skills:

Grammar is embedded within our lessons and will cover:

- **Metaphors** (saying one thing is another) e.g. *The river is a runner tumbling over the riverbed OR the candy floss clouds floated gracefully...*
- **Emotive language** (evoking a feeling in the reader) e.g. *Her heart sunk, tears flooded her eyes and her shoulders slumped, knowing she would never see Jas again.*
- **Pathetic fallacy** (is giving human feelings to a non-human objects, often to show mood) e.g. *The already dark clouds rained hailstones on the crowd below and sent everybody under the shelter, as if to warn them that danger was on the way.*
- **Fronted adverbials** (saying where, when, why or how something happens. E.g. *Near the road,...Standing silently, ... Sadly, ...*

Maths

Children will continue to learn their **times tables** up to **12 x 12** and the related division facts. Please encourage your child to use the Timestable Rockstars website to develop their timetable fluency! They should be aiming to answer equations in 5 seconds.

<https://play.trockstars.com/auth/school/student>

Knowing their timetables, means that they will be able to quickly answer questions such as:

$\Delta \times 5 = 35$	$8 \times \Delta = 64$
$42 = \Delta \times 7$	$\Delta + 11 = 3$
$64 \div \Delta = 8$	$\Delta + 12 = 12$

This is because multiplication is the **inverse** (opposite or undoing) of division, so they must understand this link.

Scaling number facts by 100

To understand how a known multiplicative fact, such as $3 \times 5 = 15$ relates to a scaled calculation, such as $300 \times 5 = 1,500$.

An **excellent website** for math support and definitions is: <https://www.mathsisfun.com/>

Co-ordinates

We will be exploring coordinates in the first quadrant and translating shapes and points within this quadrant.

Symmetry

We will also be exploring symmetry of shapes through folding and using a mirror.

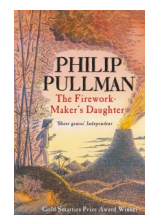
Our topic this half term is: Natural Disasters!

Topic Overview

This term, we will develop our knowledge about the *formation and impact that mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes* have on landscapes and people. We will look at pieces of music inspired by natural disasters and *compose and perform music* around this. In science, we will learn about *states of matter and develop our understanding of the water cycle*. In R.E, we will find out *why different religions have festivals* and what these are. And, in PSHE our big question is: **why is budgeting and making sensible decisions about money important?**



Our whole class reader this 1/2 term is:



Some brilliant books to read:

- *Extreme weather* by National Geographic for children.
- *Earthshattering Events!: The Science Behind Natural Disasters* by Robin Jacobs
- *Volcanoes* by National Geographic kids.

How can I develop my understanding of this topic further?

- ◆ **Invention Key:** Design and make your own volcano! Can you make it explode? Could you label the key parts of it?
- ◆ **Research and create** an information text all about Earthquakes, which include diagrams and facts. What has been the world's largest earthquake? What about the most devastating?
- ◆ **Create** your own artwork inspired by Hokusai's 'The Great Wave' using a **range of mediums**. Could you use this same style and link it to an alternative natural disaster?
- ◆ Debate the question: **Would natural disasters be as destructive if people were not affected?**
- ◆ **How** do natural disasters **affect** climate change?
- ◆ Write a **story** from the **point of view** of a natural disaster.