

# Rock Class - Spring 2

## Reading

Each day, our reading sessions focus on developing children's fluency, deepening their understanding of texts, and strengthening their ability to answer questions about what they've read. This half term our reading material will include a range of fiction and non-fiction texts related to our main topic on Exploring Antarctica. To end the day, we share a carefully chosen book together as a class. This half term, we will be continuing to focus on 'The Polar Bear Explorers Club', by Alex Bell.



## Our Main Topic



Our big question for this term is  
How do you survive an Antarctic expedition?

KS2 will be exploring the wonders of Antarctica through the eyes of an historian. They will investigate how people's lives have shaped this continent and how Britain has influenced and been influenced by the wider world. They will research a number of different polar explorers including Scott and the causes, key events, and outcomes of his race to the pole, and why it is considered a significant historical event.

## English

This half term, we will use the film clip, Alma as a basis for writing narrative with dialogue. Children will explore a range of spelling rules and grammar features, including expanded noun phrases, fronted adverbials, similes, rhetorical questions (to engage the reader), and parenthesis (to add extra detail). In non-fiction, we will focus on persuasive writing, giving children lots of opportunities to practise and refine their skills. They will continue to deepen their understanding of punctuation, such as commas, question marks and semi-colons. The children will focus on using key aspects of grammar related to the texts we will be writing.

## Maths



In our daily maths lessons, we will continue to focus on times tables to build fluency and confidence. The children will also work on revising and refining their arithmetic skills in preparation for their SATs. Although we will be revising many of the units previously taught this year, we will also be focusing on volume, ratio, algebra, angles and statistics. We will also be discussing how important it is to ask what we notice when looking at reasoning problems. This then enables us to use what we know to solve them.



## PE Days

Children in Rock Class take part in two PE sessions each week, which are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays. They will be developing their basket ball skills on Thursdays with Mr Rickard, while developing their hockey techniques on Tuesdays with Mr Finch! Please ensure your child brings their named PE kit on both days so they can fully participate in all activities.

## Homework



Thank you for continuing to support your children to complete their weekly homework. It is wonderful to see so many children handing in homework every week. Please continue to take time to hear your child read and remember to sign their reading diary to celebrate their progress. Maths and spelling homework will be sent home every Friday (Y6 will also have grammar homework) and should be returned the following Friday. To support times tables practice, children also have access to Times Table Rock Stars, with weekly certificates awarded to the highest scorer.

If you have any questions, concerns or information about your child to share, please feel free to pop in for a chat—we are always happy to help. Thank you for your continued support.

Mr Finch