



### Spring Term 2019 (1<sup>st</sup> half)



## **"Frozen Kingdom"**

This half term's topic is largely a geographical one, and will begin on 9<sup>th</sup> January when we explore ice and icebergs for ourselves! During the topic we will explore the planet's coldest lands and discover hostile territories, incredibly beautiful - yet often deadly. We will learn about those who have explored and trekked bravely across treacherous terrain, and learn about the animals that roam these lands.

In English, the children will write chronological reports about the notorious "Titanic", will develop their narrative writing skills through short stories, and will also compose evocative haiku poems about the Northern lights. As last term, a list of spellings will be sent home for the half term, and each week a new set of 8 words will be learnt and tested in addition to the previous ones. Each week there will be a guided reading session and there will also be a grammar lesson.

In Mathematics, our focus will be upon fractions, decimals and percentages which is a large unit of work and includes adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing fractions and decimals. The first two days of term, are to be spent using information in tables and timetables - often a tricky area. Year 6 will spend some extra time with me on a Wednesday afternoon, working on elements of the Key Stage 2 tests. Topic related Maths will occur as appropriate, for example making use of negative temperatures in context.

In Science, as well as developing some investigative work based around ice and icebergs, the children will learn about living things and their habitats and will find out about food chains.

Part of our work will be to learn about exploration of the polar regions and there will be opportunities to find out about significant people who made history in these areas. The children will experience photography, painting and block printing as part of our art and design work this half term. In Music they will create soundscapes to accompany the polar regions and link to the Northern lights.

In PSHCE our focus will be upon care of the environment and children will be encouraged to form opinions and discuss various issues. They will continue to develop their debating skills, forming and developing their own opinions, and statements for and against a particular theme.

Our MFL theme this half term will be weather, and we will learn to speak and write phrases linked to this.

Swimming begins this half term, on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> January and will form one of our PE sessions each week. It is important that the children have their PE kit in school each day, as depending on the weather, the day for PE may change from week to week. As many children attend sports clubs after school and return home in PE kits, it is vital that they remember to bring back their kit the next day.

Innovate week (week beginning 4<sup>th</sup> February) will be an imaginative time, which will allow the children the chance to become part of an Antarctic rescue team.

This half term will also see the children perform on the stage of the Chichester Festival Theatre, when they take part in "Chichester Sings Live" on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January. Performing in a real theatre, is an amazing experience, and one which I know the children will enjoy. Hopefully, you will equally enjoy watching them perform - don't forget to buy your tickets!

We look forward to welcoming Miss Lewis from the University, who is working in Owl Class this term, on her final teaching placement. On occasions, she will teach year 5, while year 6 do specific targeted work with me, in preparation for the end of Key Stage 2 tests in May. We hope she enjoys working with us!

Thank you for your support, as ever, and may I take this opportunity of wishing you a very happy New Year.