



LEARNING LETTER

Mr Grafton's Class - Year 5/6

Supported by Mrs Morrell, Mrs Hopkinson and Mrs Dutton
Spring Term 1 - 2023



CURRICULUM

'The Appalachian Trail to the Everglades' is the title of this term's interesting geography topic. The children will acquire a deep knowledge of specific regions of North America. During their studies they will be immersed in geographical vocabulary as they study the human and physical characteristics of these fascinating regions. A range of maps will be used, including digital maps, to identify locations and geographical features. Whilst studying the Appalachian Trail, the children will locate mountains and develop their understanding of contours on relief maps. They will find out about wetlands in the southern Florida Everglades and conservation efforts to preserve this delicate ecosystem. Comparisons will be made with similar geographical regions in their local area. The class reader fits perfectly with the topic. It is titled 'The Trail' and follows the story of Toby, a young boy trekking across the Appalachian Trail. It is a story of survival, friendship and bravely forging your own path in the world.



SUPPORTING LEARNING AT HOME

Topic homework - The geography homework tasks include the chance to make a 3D map from salt dough. I highly recommend this project, which lets children have messy fun whilst learning about North American topography.

Reading homework - 89% of the class achieved bronze on our Reading Olympic scheme last term (20 home reads). Well done to those children who reached this milestone. 50% of the class achieved silver (30 home reads). I would like this percentage to be closer to the bronze figure this term. In this six week half term, **five reads per week** are needed for silver.

Maths homework - Homework will be sent weekly for maths. If your child still has times table facts to memorise, please help them to learn by firing questions at them at any opportunity. I will also send times table packs to support with this.

GENERAL REMINDERS

PE is on Wednesday and Friday this term. Swimming continues for Y5 on Fridays. Children should wear the correct PE and remember to have long hair tied/earrings covered or removed.

This term, our school value focus is '**Sense of Adventure**'. Dojos will be awarded for those pupils who push themselves out of their comfort zone.