

Whitchurch C of E Primary School



On Dangerous Ground

Year 6

Spring 1 2025

Curriculum Information Leaflet

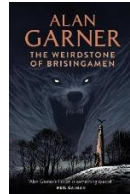
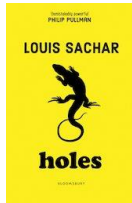


English

Reading

This year we will be using a variety of short texts, or extracts from texts, to focus our learning on different reading skills. Through these lessons, we aim to promote an enjoyment of reading, alongside improving children's reading and comprehension skills. Our reading sessions will typically follow the same structure of being broken down into four or five lessons over the course of the week.

Accompanying these lessons, each class will be reading a class book during our morning read slot. This will change for every class, every half-term. Please ask your child what their current class reader is.



Writing

Aim: To use purposeful and vivid vocabulary to recount an event

To write an explanation text on a natural disaster using our Topic knowledge

Our first writing units will link closely with our topic 'On Dangerous Ground'. We will be focusing on one story in particular, about a helicopter pilot called Craig Hosking, who finds himself stuck inside a volcano after crash landing. The children will write descriptively about the story, as well as producing a detailed and personal recount about the event. After this, we will look at a range of different natural disasters learning about how they are formed and the impact they have so children will be able to create explanation texts about the processes. Finally, we will be looking at our understanding of poems by looking at 'The Nightmail'.

You can help at home by discussing any natural disasters that occur in the news and encourage children to do some research around the events.

Important vocabulary for this half term which will be beneficial to discuss at home as we will be using it in our writing is: disastrous, equipment, frequently, immediately, temperature, experience, natural, catastrophic, devastating, severe, intense

Maths

Aim: To learn about decimals, percentages ratio and algebra.

This half-term will begin with expanding the children's knowledge on calculating with decimals using formal methods. We will also look at how to solve problems involving percentages, before linking together the relationship between decimals, fractions and percentages. Next, we will move onto on 2 new areas of learning for the children: ratio and algebra. We will look at ratio first and explaining how it is a relationship between two variables. We will learn about this using real world concepts, such as recipes and data. Following on from this we will delve into the algebra unit, focusing on rules, patterns and sequences. We will also be finding unknowns and compiling algebraic sentences.

You can help at home by discussing how ratio and algebra might be used in your own lives or jobs.

Important vocabulary includes: ratio, relationship, variable, sequence.

Geography

Natural Disasters: Volcanoes

Aim:

In this Geography topic, the children will learn about volcanoes, focusing on their formation, types, and impacts on people and the environment. The children will complete a case study on Anak Krakatoa, an active volcano in Indonesia. Eruptions from Anak Krakatoa, including the catastrophic 2018 eruption, have caused loss of life, health risks, environmental damage, and economic disruption. Their investigation and evaluation of Anak Krakatoa will highlight the importance of early warning systems, evacuation plans, and community preparedness. Children will also explore how volcanic activity reshapes landscapes, affects global climate, and prompts long-term recovery efforts. This topic encourages understanding of natural hazards and the balance between living with them and protecting vulnerable communities. The children will finish this unit by preparing a safety guide for people living near volcanoes.

Key words and terminology for the children to learn are:

- **Tectonic Plates:** Volcanoes often form at the boundaries of tectonic plates where they either collide, move apart, or slide past each other.
- **Lava, Ash, and Gases:** Different types of volcanic eruptions release lava, ash, and gases into the air, each having varying impacts.
- **Types of Volcanoes:**
 - **Shield Volcanoes:** Broad, gently sloping mountains formed by non-explosive eruptions.
 - **Composite Volcanoes:** Steep-sided mountains formed by explosive eruptions.
 - **Dome Volcanoes:** Steep-sided and formed by very viscous lava.
- **Eruption Impact:** Eruptions can affect local populations, landscapes, wildlife, and the climate.

Science

Sound and Micro-organisms

Aim: To understand how sound travels.

Aim: To know different types of micro-organisms and how they can be both helpful and harmful.

We will begin this half-term by finishing our learning from last half-term about sound. We will continue to investigate how sound waves travel and how we can alter volume and pitch. After this, we will move onto learning about micro-organisms. We will discuss how micro-organisms can be both harmful and helpful, including looking at how we use them in foods and medicines.

You can help at home by discussing some of your own experiences and knowledge of micro-organisms.

Useful vocabulary to discuss with your child includes: mould, decay, rotting, virus, bacteria, fungi.

R.E.

Rites of passage

Aim: To explore different religious practises

The children will be learning about the journey through life for a Muslim. They will look at the rituals and routines, which Muslim's have to follow and relate this back to their own experiences in their lives.

PE

Aim: To improve our health and fitness and understand why this important.

Throwing and catching, teamwork and movement skills.

This half term the children will be focusing on their throwing and catching, teamwork and movement skills. We will focus on throwing, catching and moving and how we can incorporate this into the game of netball. We will revisit skills they have previously learned in other sports and how we can transfer these across to netball. We will extend on their previous netball learning by implementing different positions into the game. We will be learning a carnival dance in indoor PE.

You can help at home by continuing to encourage your children to lead healthy and active lifestyles.

PSHE

Dreams and goals

Aim: Understanding my aspirations, how to achieve goals and the emotions that go with this

During this unit, children will have the opportunity to discuss differences, challenges and friendship. Despite there being differences, there are more similarities and children will practise their listening skills and suggest ways we can be a good friend. We will discuss people who have benefitted from overcoming a challenge and why we are grateful to these people. We will also be learning about the importance of self-care and the benefits and negatives of social media.

You can help at home by discussing ways in which we can look after our well-being and perhaps share some of your own self-care strategies with your children. You could continue to celebrate differences.

Art

Exploring Different Mediums

Aim: To explore the use of different mediums to create artwork inspired by natural disasters

This term we are exploring a range of mediums and techniques to create our own natural disaster pictures. After the children have created a range of different designs using various mediums and discussed the work of different artists, they will be given the opportunity to create a final piece using their chosen medium inspired by 'The Great Wave' by Hokusai.

You can help at home by encouraging your child's creativity- perhaps something creative from the Topic homework grid.

Computing

Communication and Collaboration

Aim: To understand how data is collected, stored and sent across the internet.

In this unit learners explore how data is transferred over the internet. Learners initially focus on addressing, before they move on to the makeup and structure of data packets. Learners then look at how the internet facilitates online communication and collaboration; they complete shared projects online and evaluate different methods of communication. Finally, they learn how to communicate responsibly by considering what should and should not be shared on the internet.

You can help at home by continuing to monitor your child's use of the internet and regularly discuss with them how to keep themselves safe.

French

The Weekend

Aim: To identify and tell the time. To learn and use the vocabulary of weekend activities.

Firstly, children will recap their knowledge of numbers by counting to 100. They will learn how to identify and tell the time including all full hour times plus quarter past the hour, half past the hour and quarter to the hour. The children will learn how to say different weekend activities and what time they might occur.

You can help at home by encouraging your child to practise their counting in French as well as their newly learned vocabulary.

Music

Aims: To play more complex rhythm patterns and count using more complex metres.

This term the children will explore more complex rhythm patterns within music and listen to a variety of music which uses more complex metres (counting in more complex durations.) We will focus on counting in 5 time. They will go on to creating and composing their own complex rhythm patterns using 5-metre.

Ways to help at home: When you are listening to music, can you help your child to recognise what metre it is counted in? E.g. is it counting in 4s or 2s or 3s? Or is it more complex and counting in 6s, 8s or 5s? Can you find any pieces of music that are counted in 5s?

Dates

Thursday 16th January – SATs paper sharing evening.

Week of 27th January – Book look (class dates tbc).

Week of 3rd February – Parent consultations (class dates tbc).

Home Learning

This will be given out weekly on a Wednesday and is to be handed in via Google Classroom the following Monday. We expect all children to complete the work that is set as it is good consolidation and practise of what has been learned in class during the week.

We would still like to encourage children to complete a task from the Topic grid which will be on Google Classroom.

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your child throughout the coming term.

