

Year 5/6 Newsletter

Fenstanton and Hilton
Primary School



What we are learning about: Global Trade

Autumn 1 2026

Please check the school website and Google Classroom for weekly updates!

Our topic/theme this half term is:

Global Food: Trade and Economics

We will be learning:

In Topic, we will focus on geography and learn about trade and economics. We will look at the UK's trade links with other countries, the global economy and revisit the importance of Fairtrade. In DT, we will be developing our knowledge of nutrition and our cooking skills. We will be researching, designing and cooking a 3-course meal in a 'Come Dine With Me' style project.

In Science, we will be developing our working scientifically skills. We will learn about the different types of science investigation, research a famous scientist and plan and carry out a range of different types of science enquiry.

Key Vocabulary:

Maths – value, ones, tens, hundreds, thousands, ten thousand, hundred thousand, millions, ten millions, addition, plus, sum, subtraction, less than, difference.

English – character, atmosphere, expanded noun phrases, adjectival phrases and participle phrases, newspaper, recount, parenthesis, relative clause, relative pronoun, passive verbs, active verbs, bracket, dash, hyphen.

Topic – trade, import, export, goods, global, global supply chain, consumer, fair trade, multinational, economy, services, scientist, enquiry, observe, pattern, identify, classify, group, matter, materials, characteristics, properties, secondary source, comparative test, fair test, variable, dependent variable, independent variable, analyse, survey, evidence

English

In English, and guided reading we are focusing on Alfred Noyes' famous poem, the Highwayman. Using this narrative poem about a Highwayman who visits an inn on a dark night, high on the moor, we will explore character and atmosphere in our narrative writing. We will explore a narrative story version of the text and then use this to write our own versions of the story with a modern twist.

In our second English unit this half-term, we will use the events of the Highwayman as the basis for writing newspaper articles. We will explore how news is presented in a range of media and explore the similarities in the features you would expect to find – e.g. headline, by line, orientation paragraph etc. With this knowledge we will write our own news articles about the Highwayman poem as if we are reporters at the time.

Mathematics:

In Maths, we will begin the year looking at place value. We have considered the value of numbers to ten million and one million. We will then use our understanding of this to compare and order them. Additionally, we will look into rounding numbers within one million – and any integer number in year six. Later in the half-term we will be looking at recapping and building on previous years' learning of addition and subtraction. The children will be learning to mentally calculate using adjusting and partitioning with larger numbers, estimating using rounding and using the formal methods to calculate increasingly larger numbers with accuracy. We will also use models to calculate problems that include multiple operations.