

Year 5/6 Newsletter

Fenstanton and Hilton
Primary School



Summer 1 2024

What we are learning about:

Our topic/theme this half term is:

Why does population change?

We will be learning:

In Topic, we will be learning about population and how it can be affected by a range of factors. We will explore how global population has changed in the past five hundred years and look at how medical changes have seen a dramatic rise in the global population in the past sixty years. Following this, we will look into birth and death rates and how these contribute, along with other factors, to a country's population. We will use our findings to consider how over population can impact an area.

In Science, we will be exploring electricity. During the six weeks of the half-term, we will explore circuits; investigate the voltage of cells using bulbs; explore how different components function; and how renewable energy is developing and changing the way we create electricity.

Key Vocabulary:

Maths – input, output, function, rule, expression, equation, balance, 2 more than a number can be represented as $x + 2$ or $y + 2$ etc, simplify ($t + t + t = 3t$), formulae, value, cubed, product, quotient.

English – noun, expanded noun phrase, relative clause, parenthesis, subordinate clause, brackets, dashes, colon, semi-colon, inverted commas, possessive apostrophe, coordinate clause, conjunction, adverbial, prepositional phrase

Topic – population, population density, sparsely populated, densely populated, overpopulation, cell, voltage, switch, bulb, circuit.

English:

In English, we will be moving away from our usual two or three-week writing units where we would take a detailed look at a text type, building towards writing our own version. Instead, we will be recapping previously taught texts in some 'weekly writes.'

Firstly, we will explore writing a balanced argument to write our own, based on the class book we explored last half-term. Next, we will recap newspaper articles and write our own using the correct structure and features. After this, we will look into persuasive writing to produce a persuasive letter.

The other weeks of the term will be used to revisit some of the narrative writing we have produced this year and consider how we can use the skills we have learnt since then to improve a piece of writing.

Mathematics:

This half-term in maths, we will be focusing on revising core concepts and methods for the whole class. Additionally, we will be looking at presenting and reading statistics from data presented in bar, line and pictographs and the year six children will be learning some basic algebra.

The children will be recapping all the key areas of the maths curriculum we have covered so far. This is largely in preparation for the SATs for year 6, however it will also be beneficial for the year 5 students to revise learning that was covered in Autumn term and during the Spring.

In algebra, the year 6 children will be learning about forming expressions using algebraic language, such as x or y . They will learn about substitution of an unknown value and how expressions can be formed and simplified. We will then move on to thinking about how formulae can be used to find answers to 1 and 2 step problems. Finally, we will consider how algebra can be used to find variables, i.e. $x + y = 9$, what could the values of x & y be?