

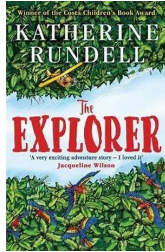
# Aslan Class

## Spring 2 Newsletter

### February 2024

#### English

This term we will use the book 'Explorer' by Katherine Rundell. We will use these to write a diary entry from the point of view of one of the main characters. We will also write some free verse poetry and a biography based on a famous explorer.



#### History

Our focus this term is on the Maya as well as the main question: **'Who were the Maya and when did their civilization peak?'**

We will learn about the successes of their empire as well as their architecture, writing and farming. We will also analyse the downfall of the empire and look at the possible reasons for this.



#### Geography

Our focus this term is on South America and its population as well as the main question:

**'What is the physical geography of South America?'**

We will learn about the rivers and mountain ranges across the continent, and will learn about the tropical biomes found in the Amazon rainforest.



#### Welcome Back!

**Class Teacher: Mr Burbeck**

**Teaching Assistant: Mrs Holden**

We hope you have enjoyed seeing the work that we have been learning in Aslan Class last term. We are really excited about continuing to share wonderful learning adventures with you. Please feel free to catch either of us after school at the end of the day if you have any questions or just want a chat.



#### Reading



During reading comprehension lessons (VIPERS), the children will work on improving their vocabulary, inference, prediction, explanation, retrieval and summarising skills. They will build on these to help them to analyse and discuss texts, and answer comprehension questions. Your child will be issued a banded-book, which will be sent home daily for their home reading. This book is also required for accelerated reader tests as well as short reading breaks during the day, so please ensure your child brings this into school each day.

#### Science

This term, we will consider the question: **'Can I experiment gravitational force?'** We will learn about various forces and how they cause things to move and slow down.



#### Maths

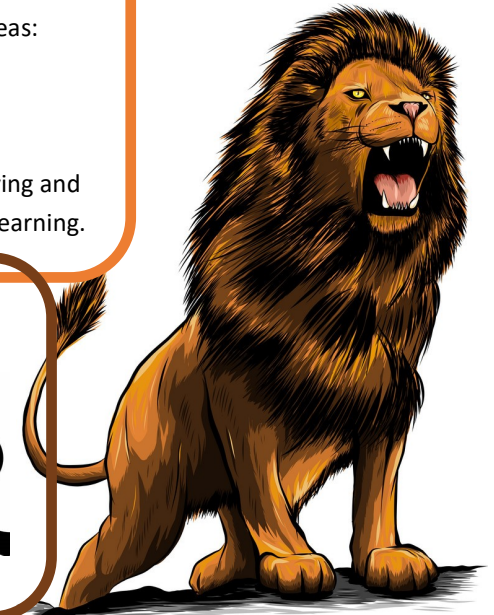
This term, we will be focusing on the following main areas:

- Decimals & Percentages
- Perimeter & Area
- Statistics

As part of this we will be using manipulatives, problem solving and creating real life scenarios in the classroom to support the learning.

#### PE

Year 5 will have swimming this term, pupils should bring in a swimming costume and a towel. Swimming goggles are optional. We also start many mornings with a 'mile' run around the school grounds, or use 'Go Noodle' for dance to get ready for the day.



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#### Computing



This term, we will be using Purple Mash to create our own computer games—considering the target audience.

#### Design & Technology

In DT, we will be designing and making our own bridges.



#### PSHE

In PSHE, we will be learning all about 'Healthy Me'. We will consider the impact that diet, alcohol and smoking can have on our health. We will also consider body image and how we can stay healthy in a range of ways.



#### French

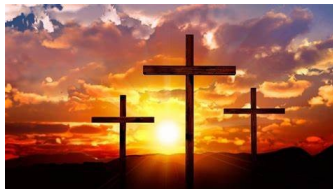
In French, we will be learning about the French speaking world; where it is spoken, how to ask for directions etc.



#### RE

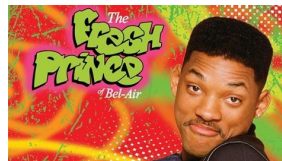
We will focus on the following question: **How significant is it for Christians to believe God intended Jesus to die?**

We will consider this in relation to a Christian's understanding of pre-destination and the Easter story.



#### Music

This term, we will focus on the Will Smith song—The Fresh Prince Of Bel-Air. We will learn about the genre and appraise various songs, whilst also practicing the song for a performance to the school at the end of the half term.



#### Homework

This year, homework will be set using Purple Mash. Homework will consist of English and Maths skills based on what we have been learning that week. I will also be setting work related to the topic.

Due: **Thursday** of each week.  
Work Set: **Friday** of each week.

purple  
mash

#### Art

In Art, we will be creating interactive installations. We will look at various mediums and artists to help us create our own sculptures.

