

Dear Year 5 Parents,

First of all I would like to wish you all a happy new year and I hope you had a happy and relaxing Christmas break. Thank you for the cards and gifts I received at the end of last term – they were all very much appreciated!

As usual, we have a very busy six week half term ahead of us. Here is a brief summary of what we will be up to.

A main area of the children's learning will be focused around appreciating the importance of water in our own lives and finding out about the difficulties some people have in the world accessing clean water. This will begin with a workshop from Severn Trent where the children will be discovering how the water we use on a daily basis is cleaned and then returned to our taps to be used once more. Later in the half term there will be a representative from the charity Water Aid visiting, where the children will find out more about how people in less economically developed countries are helped to access clean water. Hopefully, this will lead to the children carrying out a fund raising event of their own!

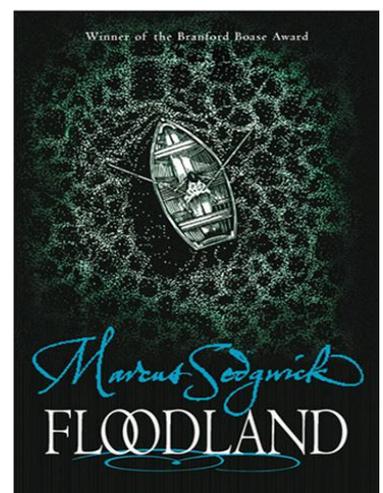


There will also be work in **Science** relating to water, including a re-cap of the water cycle and the science behind making water clean and drinkable once more.



Also, still following the water theme, in **Art** lessons children will be investigating still life and Pop Art by the artists Patrick Caulfield and Roy Lichtenstein and using this as inspiration to create their own art work.

In **Literacy**, the children will be practicing their reading comprehension skills and producing pieces of writing linked to the novel, Floodlands (Marcus Sedgewick, ISBN: 9781858817637). We will be reading it as a class and it would be beneficial for each child to have their own copy. If you have any difficulty in getting the book, please come and speak to me as there may be some spare copies in school. We will be starting the book in two weeks, so hopefully this will give you



enough chance to order a copy – I know some children will be keen to start reading the book straight away, but the idea is for us to read it together as a whole class.

In **Maths**, children will be developing their skills in mental addition and subtraction of decimal numbers; finding out more about factors, primes and square numbers; investigating the properties of the different types of triangles; converting between metric units of measure (g, kg, ml, and litres) and using written methods to solve problems involving pounds and pence.

Homework schedule:

Wednesday: Spelling and Literacy homework given out (to be returned Monday).

Friday: Maths homework given out (to be returned Tuesday).

It was pleasing to see the **Accelerated Reader** scheme continuing to have an impact on the amount of independent reading the children are doing. We had 2/3 of the class meeting their points target last term – it would be great if all children could meet their points target by the end of this term. To be able to do this, the children will need to be reading at least 25 minutes per day – some of this will be done at school, but there still needs to be at least 15 minutes per day of reading at home. This will enable the children to meet their target, make accelerated progress and develop a greater enjoyment of reading.

Year 5 will have **PE** twice a week (for some children one of these lessons will be swimming). Please make sure children have their PE kit in school (including pumps or trainers) at all times.

At the end of this half term, there will be the mid-year parent/teacher meetings where I will be able to update you on the progress of your child and discuss some practical targets to enable further progress.

Finally, I would just like to say how much I enjoyed teaching Year 5 last term and am looking forward to the work we are going to do over the next few weeks.

Thank you for your continued support.
Mr Viner

Water

What part should we play in our relationship with Earth's water?

Key Vocabulary:

river

sea

water cycle

precipitation

sewage

sanitation

desert

stream

ocean

evaporation

water vapour

sewer

purification

rain

coast

reservoir

condensation

clean

filter

irrigation

rainfall