SQUIRRELS NEWSLETTER

Year 5 – Autumn 2



Autumn 2

Welcome back Squirrels!

A new half term brings new opportunities, new challenges and plenty of exciting learning. As we journey through this term together, our Christian value is Trust. Trust means having confidence when things feel uncertain, believing that we are supported, and having faith in ourselves, others and God as we take on new experiences.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding."

This verse reminds us that even when we face unfamiliar situations, we do not have to face them alone. Throughout our learning, we will meet people who step into the unknown with courage and hope. In The Arrival, we will explore the experiences of someone beginning a new life in a strange place, learning how trust, perseverance and kindness help people overcome challenges and find a sense of belonging.

As we investigate how populations change, discover the forces that shape our world, and consider who Jesus is through our RE learning, we will reflect on how trust helps us grow, build relationships and make a positive difference in our communities.

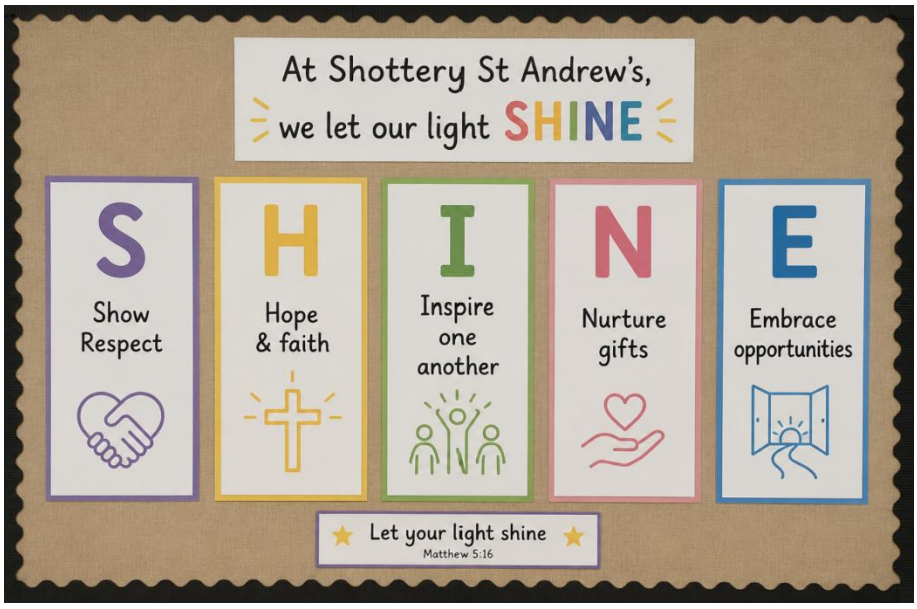
I am looking forward to a wonderful half term filled with curiosity, creativity and confidence as we learn, explore and support one another. Together, we will continue to remember that every member of our class matters and that we all play an important part in helping each other succeed.

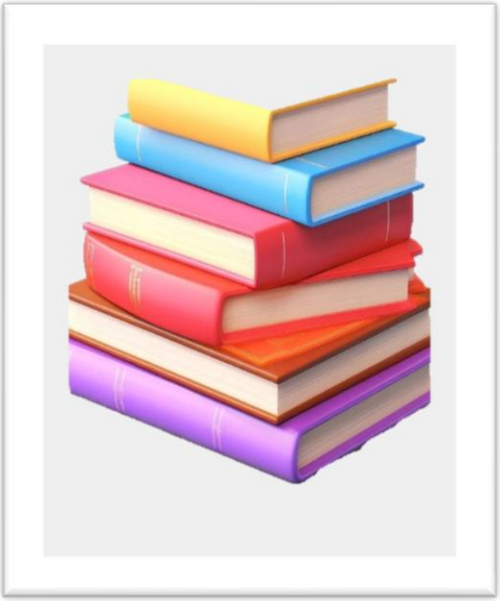




Curriculum at a glance...

English	The Arrival By Shaun Tan Main outcome: Narrative retelling (extended) Additional Outcomes: Letters, character descriptions, diaries, poster, short playscripts, short report.
Maths	Fractions / Multiplication and Division
Geography - Humanities	How does the population change?
Science	PHYSICS - Forces and space: Unbalanced forces
RE	Who is Jesus?
PSHE	How can we make a difference in our communities and beyond?
DT	Textiles / Bags
Computing	Programming
Music	Composition / Notation (Ancient Egypt)







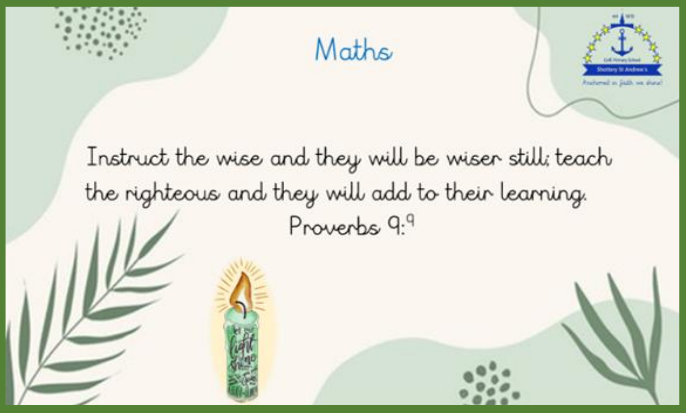
English Writing- Taught by Miss Morys
Class Text - *The Arrival* - Shaun Tan

This term, we're diving into *Some Places More Than Others*, where Amara explores New York, uncovers family stories and discovers how places change over time. It links perfectly to our English - This term, we are exploring The Arrival by Shaun Tan, a powerful wordless graphic novel about migration, belonging and starting a new life in an unfamiliar place. Children will consider why people move and how migration affects communities, linking closely to our Geography enquiry, Why Does Population Change?. Connections will also be made to Science as we explore how forces help people and goods travel across the world. The main writing outcome will be an extended narrative retelling, supported by diary entries, letters and character-focused writing.

English Reading - Children will continue to develop their reading skills through FFT Lightning Squad and Reciprocal Reading. These approaches help improve reading fluency, comprehension, vocabulary and confidence through strategies such as predicting, questioning, clarifying and summarising. We strongly encourage children to access FFT at home regularly, as little and often practice can have a significant impact on reading progress.

Love for Reading - As we approach the festive season, we will enjoy a range of Christmas stories alongside engaging short stories and extracts, helping to develop a love of reading while broadening vocabulary and imagination.

Spellings - Children will continue to practise weekly spellings through Purple Mash, alongside learning and revisiting the Year 5 and 6 statutory spelling words. Regular practice in school and at home will help pupils improve their spelling accuracy, expand their vocabulary and apply ambitious words confidently in their writing feel like a mini weekly challenge!



Maths - Taught by Mrs Hill
Fractions and Multiplication / Division

Maths - In Year 5, we use White Rose Maths and Mastering Number to help children develop confidence and fluency in mathematics. This term, our focus is on multiplication, division and fractions. Children will build secure calculation skills, explore efficient strategies and apply their knowledge to a range of reasoning and problem-solving challenges. Through practical activities, mathematical discussions and investigations, pupils will explain their thinking and make connections between different areas of maths.

Every day, Year 5 will begin with Fluent in Five, a quick and engaging maths warm-up designed to develop speed, accuracy and confidence with key number skills. Arriving on time ensures that children do not miss this valuable daily practice.

This term, pupils will deepen their understanding of multiplication and division, including formal written methods and applying their knowledge to solve increasingly complex problems. They will also explore fractions, learning how to compare, order, add and subtract fractions, as well as make links between fractions, multiplication and division. The aim is to develop confident mathematicians who can apply their skills in a range of contexts.

Children will also continue to access Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS) at home. Having rapid recall of times tables is essential for success in many areas of mathematics, particularly multiplication, division and fractions, and regular practice can make a significant difference to confidence and progress.





Curriculum Spelling List Years 5 and 6

accommodate	conscience	existence	muscle	rhythm
accompany	conscious	explanation	necessary	sacrifice
according	controversy	familiar	neighbour	secretary
achieve	convenience	foreign	nuisance	shoulder
aggressive	correspond	forty	occupy	signature
amateur	criticise	frequently	occur	sincere
ancient	curiosity	government	opportunity	sincerely
apparent	definite	guarantee	parliament	soldier
appreciate	desperate	harass	persuade	stomach
attached	determined	hindrance	physical	sufficient
available	develop	identity	prejudice	suggest
average	dictionary	immediate	privilege	symbol
awkward	disastrous	immediately	profession	system
bargain	embarrass	individual	programme	temperature
bruise	environment	interfere	pronunciation	thorough
category	equip	interrupt	queue	twelfth
cemetery	equipped	language	recognise	variety
committee	equipment	leisure	recommend	vegetable
communicate	especially	lightning	relevant	vehicle
community	exaggerate	marvellous	restaurant	yacht
competition	excellent	mischievous	rhyme	

Fractions — Knowledge Organiser

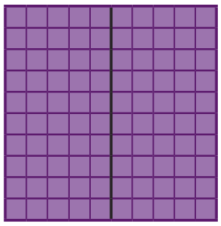
Key Vocabulary

- numerator
- denominator
- unit fraction
- non-unit fraction
- whole
- equivalent
- mixed number
- improper fraction
- simplest form
- multiple
- common denominator
- common numerator

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Equivalent Fractions

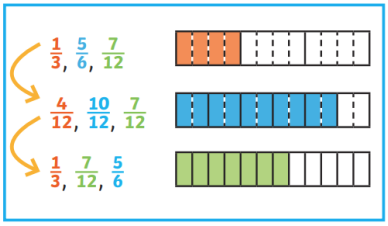
To find equivalent fractions, we multiply or divide the numerator and denominator by the same number.

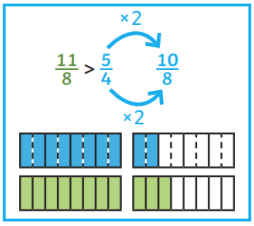


$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{5}{10} = \frac{50}{100}$ (×5, ×10 / ×5, ×10)

Compare and Order Fractions

We can compare and order fractions by using common denominators.





Mixed Numbers

Mixed numbers contain a whole number and a fraction.

whole → $2\frac{1}{4}$ ← fraction

Improper Fractions

An improper fraction has a numerator which is greater than or equal to the denominator.

$\frac{5}{3}$

Convert an Improper Fraction to a Mixed Number

$\frac{9}{4}$

$9 \div 4 = 2r1$ → $2\frac{1}{4}$

Divide the numerator by the denominator.

This shows you the whole number and the fraction.

Convert a Mixed Number to an Improper Fraction

Multiply the whole by the denominator to make an improper fraction.

$2\frac{5}{6} = \frac{12}{6} + \frac{5}{6} = \frac{17}{6}$

Add the fractions together.

Fractions of Quantities

To find a fraction of a number, divide by the denominator and multiply by numerator.

To find quarters of 20:

20			
5	5	5	5

$\frac{1}{4}$ of 20 = 5 $\frac{2}{4}$ of 20 = 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ of 20 = 15 $\frac{4}{4}$ of 20 = 20

To find eighths of 56:

56							
7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7

$\frac{1}{8}$ of 56 = 7 $\frac{2}{8}$ of 56 = 14 $\frac{3}{8}$ of 56 = 21 $\frac{4}{8}$ of 56 = 28

$\frac{5}{8}$ of 56 = 35 $\frac{6}{8}$ of 56 = 42 $\frac{7}{8}$ of 56 = 49 $\frac{8}{8}$ of 56 = 56



Geography - Why does Population Change?

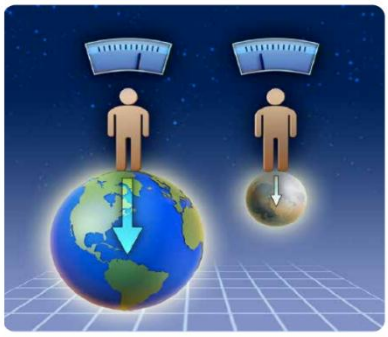
This term, we'll become population detectives, discovering why some places grow while others shrink! We'll explore the reasons people move around the world and investigate how migration, climate and opportunities can change communities over time.

Geography

Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.
Psalm 119:105

Science - Unbalanced forces

Gravity is a pulling force that acts between any two objects with mass. The greater the mass of the objects and the closer they are to each other, the stronger the gravitational pull between them.

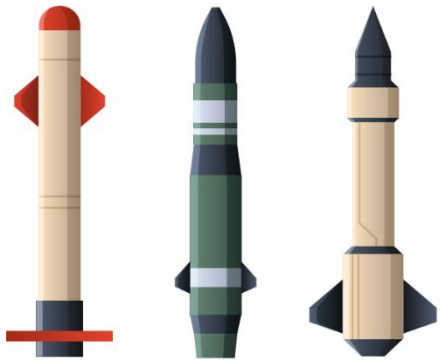


Friction is a contact force between two surfaces that opposes motion and causes a slowing effect. Rougher surfaces and more weight increase friction.

Air resistance, a type of friction, is the force that opposes an object moving through the air. The greater the object's surface area and the faster it moves, the greater the air resistance.



Streamlining involves designing objects to move through air or water more easily by making their shape smooth and sleek to reduce resistance from air or water.



Sir Isaac Newton (1643-1727) was an English scientist who discovered the laws of gravity.



Water resistance, a type of friction, is the force that opposes an object moving through water. The greater the object's surface area and the faster it moves, the greater the water resistance.

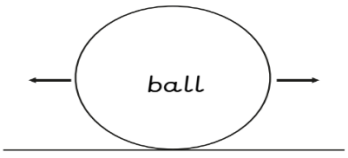


Science - Unbalanced forces

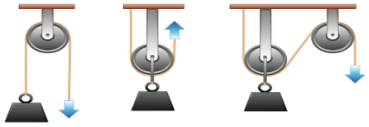
When forces are **unbalanced** (unequal), change will happen: changing speed, shape, direction, starting or stopping moving.



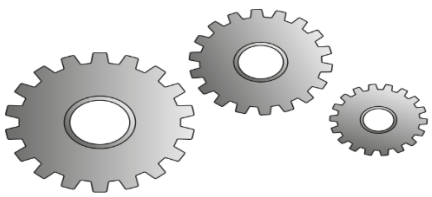
When forces are **balanced** (equal), an object will either be stationary or moving at a steady speed.



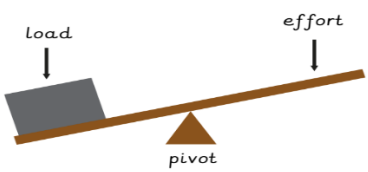
A **pulley** is a wheel with a groove around it for a rope, making it easier to lift heavy things by pulling down on the rope.



A **gear** is a wheel with teeth that fits into another gear to change the speed or direction of movement.

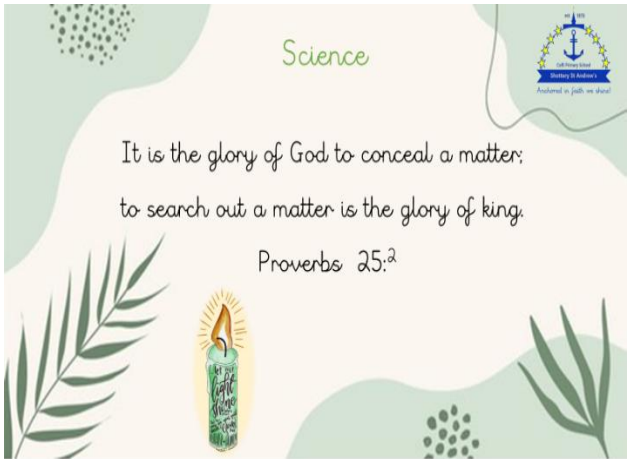


A **lever** is a stiff bar that moves around a pivot to lift a load more easily.





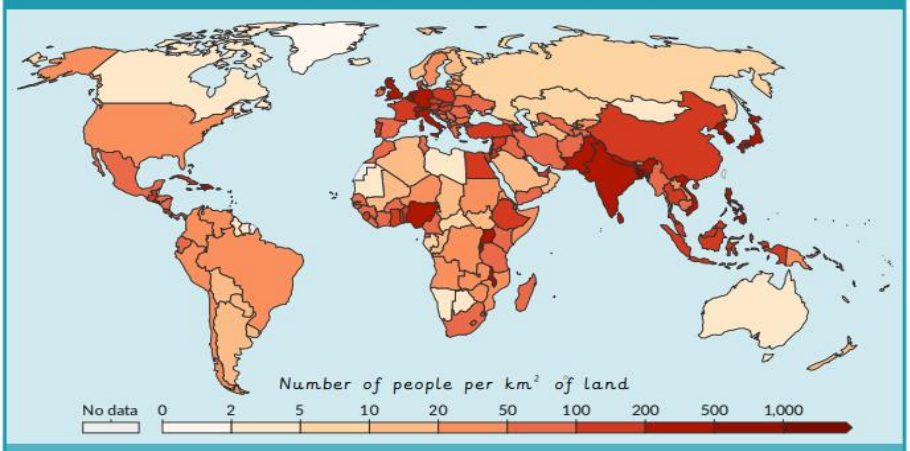
Science - This term, we'll be exploring the exciting world of forces, discovering how pushes, pulls, gravity and friction affect the way things move. Through practical investigations and experiments, children will think like scientists as they test, predict and explain how forces shape the world around us.



Geography - Why does population change?

Kapow Primary

Map showing global population density



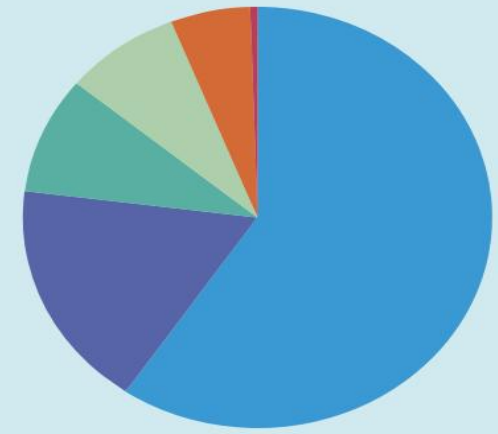
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population	The number of people living in a particular place.
densely populated	An area that contains many people relative to its size.
sparsely populated	An area that has few people relative to its size.

Global population distribution

population distribution	How people are spread across a specific area.



- South America 5.5%
- Europe 9%
- Oceania 0.5%
- North America 8%
- Asia 59.9%
- Antarctica 0%
- Africa 17.5%

Geography - Why does population change?

Kapow Primary

Reasons for population growth

- Increase in birth rate.
- Decrease in death rate.
- Increase in immigration.
- Consistent access to food.
- A stable job and income.
- Clean, spacious housing.

Reasons for population decline

- Decrease in birth rate.
- Increase in death rate.
- Increase in emigration.
- Little or no access to clean water.
- Little access to hospitals and medicine.
- War and conflict.
- Natural disasters.
- Spread of disease.

birth rate
The average number of babies born per 1000 people every year.

death rate
The average number of people dying per 1000 people every year.

push factors	Negative factors that push people away from a place.
pull factors	Positive factors that pull people towards a place.

Push factors	Pull factors
•To escape conflict or war.	•To find a good job.
•To escape natural disasters.	•To be closer to family and friends.
•Poverty (little money).	•Good access to healthcare.
•Little access to healthcare.	•Safety (lack of war).
•Few jobs.	•Low crime rate.
•High crime rate.	•Access to good education.
•Little food, crop failure.	•Pleasant climate and landscape.
•Harsh climate.	•To find a better quality of life.
•Little or no access to education.	•Respect for different cultures, religions and beliefs.
•Unhappy.	

migration	The act of people moving from one place to another.
refugee	People forced to leave their country to find safety because of conflict, violence or war.

Last Part…



PE & Brain Boosts

Get those trainers ready! PE takes place every Tuesday morning, so children can come to school dressed in their PE kit and ready for action. From team games to skill-building challenges, we'll be keeping active while having lots of fun.

On Fridays, we'll switch gears and give our brains a workout! Through mindfulness, relaxation and reflection activities, children will learn strategies to stay focused, manage worries and build confidence. Think of it as a gym session… but for the mind!

Let's Keep in Touch



Whether it's a question, a celebration or something you'd like me to know, Class Dojo is the best way to get in touch. I love hearing your news and check messages regularly. For reminders, dates and important information, keep an eye on ParentMail.

A Few Quick Reminders

If it can be lost, please put a name on it! Naming belongings saves lots of mystery-solving time.

Children only need to bring their reading book and reading record each day. We've got all the pencils, pens and classroom equipment covered.

Please send a water bottle filled with water only every day. Healthy hydration helps us stay focused and ready to learn.

Here's to Another Fantastic Half Term!

With exciting learning, festive fun and plenty of opportunities to shine, we're all set for a busy and successful term ahead.

Best wishes,

Miss Morys

TRUST

Root Value: Trust means believing that people will try to do the right thing and that we can depend on each other. It helps us feel safe, cared for, and included.

Fruits of Trust

Friendship · Teamwork · Honesty · Kindness · Confidence · Feeling Safe

OWs – Oh No!

What can make trust difficult?

- ✗ Not telling the truth
- ✗ Breaking a promise
- ✗ Leaving someone out
- ✗ Not listening to others
- ✗ Being unkind with words or actions
- ✗ Keeping secrets that hurt others

Think About It:

- Has someone ever broken a promise to me?
- Have I ever found it hard to trust someone?
- What can make people feel unsafe or worried?



WOWs – Wow!

What helps trust grow?

- ★ A friend keeping a promise
- ★ Someone helping when we need it
- ★ Telling the truth, even when it's hard
- ★ Working together as a team
- ★ Feeling safe to share our thoughts and feelings
- ★ Knowing someone cares about us

Think About It:

- Who do I trust and why?
- When has someone shown me they care?
- How does it feel when people trust me?



NOWs – What can I do now?

- ✓ Tell the truth
- ✓ Keep my promises
- ✓ Listen carefully to others
- ✓ Be kind and respectful
- ✓ Help someone who needs support
- ✓ Say sorry when I make a mistake

Think About It:

- What is one way I can show trust today?
- Who can I help feel included and safe?
- How can I be someone others can trust?



TRUST TREE

ROOTS: Trust

TRUNK: Honest words and actions

FRUITS: Friendship, teamwork, kindness, confidence, and belonging.

Trust grows when we tell the truth, keep our promises, and care for each other.