



HARES NEWSLETTER



Years 3 & 4 – Autumn 2



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back and I hope you all had a spooktacular Halloween break filled with treats (and maybe a few tricks!) and some lovely family time.

The children achieved so much during **Autumn 1**, and I am incredibly proud of the progress they have made. Their hard work, enthusiasm, and curiosity have been fantastic to see, and I'm excited to continue building on this as we move into the rest of the term.

The Hares are bursting with energy and ready for another fun-filled half term! With fireworks, festive excitement, and plenty of creativity in the air, we're looking forward to seeing all the amazing things the children will get up to and the progress they'll make over the coming weeks.

Let the countdown begin to Christmas, and here's to a fun, joyful, and memorable term completion for all!

Memory Verses

We'll be continuing with our class memory verses this term! Our main verse, "Let your light shine before others..." (Matthew 5:16), reminds us to show kindness and goodness in all we do. Each half term we also learn a new verse to help us grow in faith. This term's verse is:

Micah 1:4

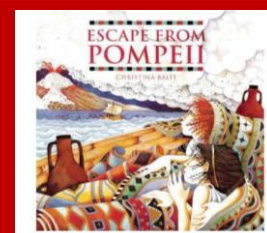
The mountains melt beneath his feet and flow into the valleys like wax in a fire, like water pouring down a hill.

We will continue to think about how they guide us every day.

Our Class Topic

Our main text this term is *Escape from Pompeii* by Christina Balit. The children will explore this powerful story to inspire a range of writing.

This text has been chosen as it links beautifully with our new class topic, 'Why Do People Choose To Live By Volcanoes?'



"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16).

English Reading

This half term, while we will continue to use VIPERS in some reading lessons. Our main focus will be to spark lively discussions about the class text. Children will also explore a variety of other reading materials, helping them to share ideas, ask questions, and to develop a deeper love of reading.

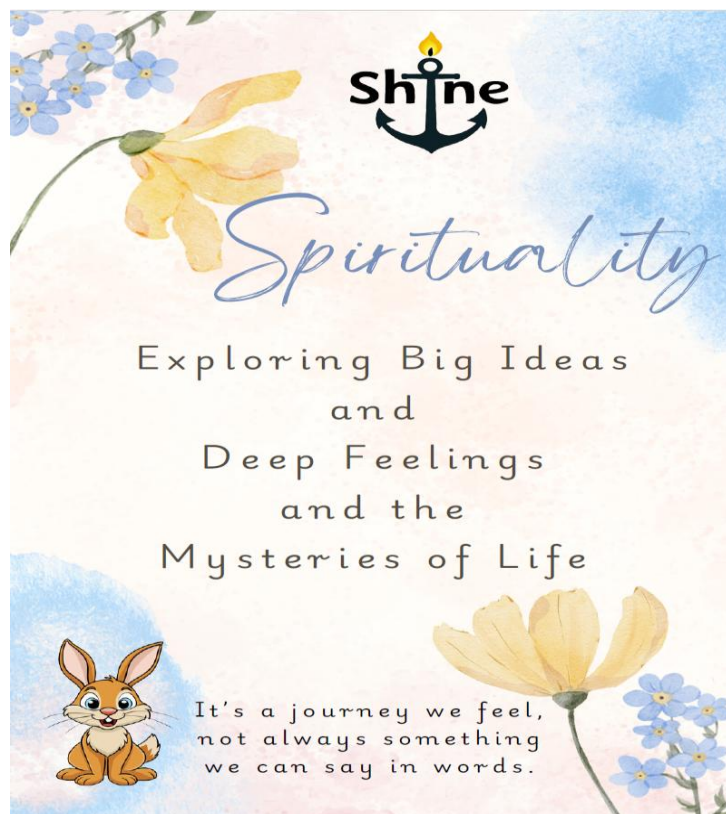
English Writing

We will continue to focus on one main text and explore other fiction and non-fiction texts through lots of text-rich discussion.

| | | |
|------------------|--|---|
| Term | Autumn 2 |  |
| Text, author | Escape From Pompeii - Christina Balit | |
| Main theme | Hope and Healing | |
| Links and Themes | Volcanoes, Ancient Rome, disasters, Pompeii, friendship, loyalty, survival | |
| Writing Purposes | Writing to entertain, Writing to inform | Spelling Seeds |
| Main Outcome | Newspaper report | Word list words |
| Other outcomes | Setting descriptions, diaries, letters, thought bubbles | Words with /k/ sound spelt <ch> Words with the /s/ sound spelt <sc> |
| Length | 15 + sessions | |

Curriculum areas at a glance!

| | |
|-----------|---|
| English | Main: Newspaper reports, letters, diary entries, and descriptive writing. |
| Maths | Addition and Subtraction / Multiplication & Division / Area |
| Topic | Why do people choose to live by volcanoes? |
| Science | Animals, including humans: movement and nutrition |
| RE | How might your worldview lead you to do hard things for good reasons? (continued) |
| PSHE | Health and Well-being |
| Music | Five Gold Rings |
| PE | Dance / Basketball |
| Computing | Video trailers: Using iPads |
| DT | Pneumatic toys |



shine

Spirituality

Exploring Big Ideas
and
Deep Feelings
and the
Mysteries of Life

It's a journey we feel,
not always something
we can say in words.

Remember to access the Accelerated Reader link, to take reading tests (weekly) via the link on the stream, on Google Classroom.

Please ensure your children are completing Numbots (Yr 3) and TTRS (Yr 4) practise regularly.

For any enquiries contact me directly on Class Dojo.

Yr 3 and Yr 4 - Multiplication and Division

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| x | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 2 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 10 | 12 | 14 | 16 | 18 | 20 | 22 | 24 |
| 3 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 12 | 15 | 18 | 21 | 24 | 27 | 30 | 33 | 36 |
| 4 | 4 | 8 | 12 | 16 | 20 | 24 | 28 | 32 | 36 | 40 | 44 | 48 |
| 5 | 5 | 10 | 15 | 20 | 25 | 30 | 35 | 40 | 45 | 50 | 55 | 60 |
| 6 | 6 | 12 | 18 | 24 | 30 | 36 | 42 | 48 | 54 | 60 | 66 | 72 |
| 7 | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 | 35 | 42 | 49 | 56 | 63 | 70 | 77 | 84 |
| 8 | 8 | 16 | 24 | 32 | 40 | 48 | 56 | 64 | 72 | 80 | 88 | 96 |
| 9 | 9 | 18 | 27 | 36 | 45 | 54 | 63 | 72 | 81 | 90 | 99 | 108 |
| 10 | 10 | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50 | 60 | 70 | 80 | 90 | 100 | 110 | 120 |
| 11 | 11 | 22 | 33 | 44 | 55 | 66 | 77 | 88 | 99 | 110 | 121 | 132 |
| 12 | 12 | 24 | 36 | 48 | 60 | 72 | 84 | 96 | 108 | 120 | 132 | 144 |

Multiply Using Informal and Formal Methods

$10 \times 3 = 30$ $10 \times 3 = 30$ $4 \times 3 = 12$ $24 \times 3 = 60 + 12 = 72$

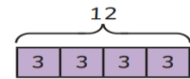
Tens Ones

| Th | H | T | O |
|-------|---|---|---|
| | 5 | 4 | 3 |
| | | | 4 |
| <hr/> | | | |
| 2 | 1 | 7 | 2 |
| <hr/> | | | |
| 1 | 1 | | |

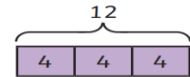
Sharing and Grouping

$12 \div 4 = 3$

12 counters are shared equally between 4 children.



12 counters are grouped into packs of 4.



Related Calculations

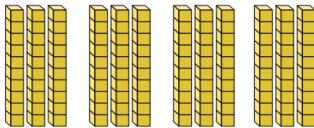
$3 \times 4 = 12$



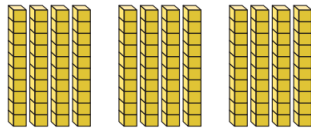
$4 \times 3 = 12$



$30 \times 4 = 120$



$40 \times 3 = 120$



Multiples of 2, 4 and 8

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 2 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 10 | 12 | 14 | 16 | 18 | 20 | 22 | 24 |
| 4 | 8 | 12 | 16 | 20 | 24 | 28 | 32 | 36 | 40 | 44 | 48 |
| 8 | 16 | 24 | 32 | 40 | 48 | 56 | 64 | 72 | 80 | 88 | 96 |

Doubling the 2 times table is equal to the 4 times table. Doubling the 4 times table is equal to the 8 times table.



Timetable

This half term is packed with exciting learning adventures! Every day we'll dive into Maths and English, and there's plenty more fun to explore—Geography, Science, PSHE, RE, Computing, DT and Music (get ready to sing and dance along to "Five Gold Rings" and other festive favourites!). PE will get everyone moving on Tuesday afternoons, so make sure those kits are ready. Plus, each week we'll have a special mindfulness and meditation session to help the children relax, focus, and reflect.

Homework

There are only two focus areas for homework at the moment - Reading and Maths - Numbots (Yr 3) and TTRS (Yr 4)

Reading

Reading at home is like giving your imagination and thinking skills a boost! It builds confidence, fluency, and creativity, and research shows that children who read regularly perform better across all subjects. We've noticed that many children aren't regularly completing **Accelerated Reader quizzes** at home. Each child now has individual targets based on their personalised results from recent **STAR tests**. These targets are designed to give every child a clear, tailored goal to work towards and celebrate as they make progress. Please encourage daily reading, and remind your child to complete their quizzes and update their reading records each week - we love celebrating every book they finish!

Maths

Times tables are the superheroes of maths - the quicker your child knows them, the faster and more confident they become in problem-solving. At the moment, many children aren't practising regularly on **Times Tables Rockstars** or using **Numbots** to strengthen key skills. Children in Years 3 and 4 are encouraged to practise little and often. For Year 4, this regular practice will also make the **Multiplication Tables Check (MTC)** in the summer term much easier.

Equipment

To help keep everything organised, please ensure all jumpers, coats, and water bottles are clearly named. Small bags only please, to fit in the lockers. Also, your child's reading book should come to school every day so they can read in class, when opportunity arises.

Run-up to Christmas

We have a festive term ahead! Children will enjoy themed activities in class, including **Christmas music, art, and seasonal stories**, as well as PE, mindfulness sessions, and continued work on core subjects. It promises to be a fun and memorable run-up to the holidays.

Finally - Communication & Updates

If you have any questions, concerns, or just want to share a special moment from home, please contact me via **Dojo**. I check messages regularly and will respond as quickly as possible. I'm really looking forward to getting to know your children—and, of course, you—better this term. Please also keep an eye on **ParentMail** for all key dates, events, and important updates. Your support and communication play a huge part in making this term a positive, fun, and successful experience for everyone.

kindest regards,

Miss Morys



Geography - Why do people live near volcanoes?

Layers of the earth

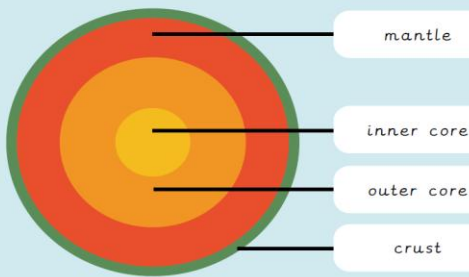
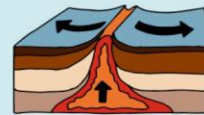


Plate boundaries



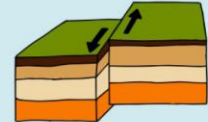
convergent

This is where two tectonic plates meet. The ground can fold up, creating fold mountains.



divergent

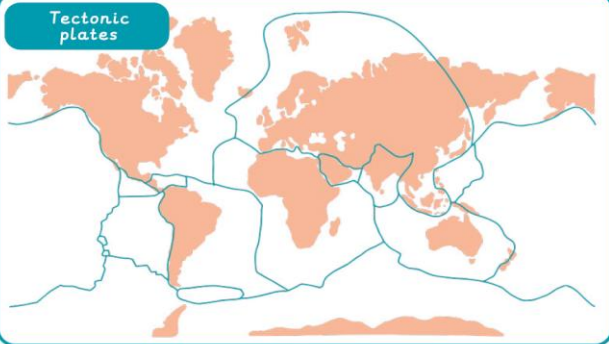
This is where two tectonic plates move apart. Magma can come through the gap, creating a volcanic mountain.



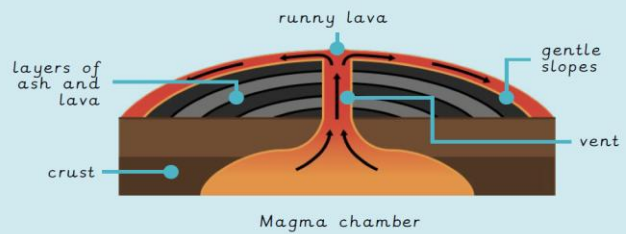
transform

This is where two tectonic plates slide past one another. Cracks in the plates can cause fault-block mountains.

Tectonic plates



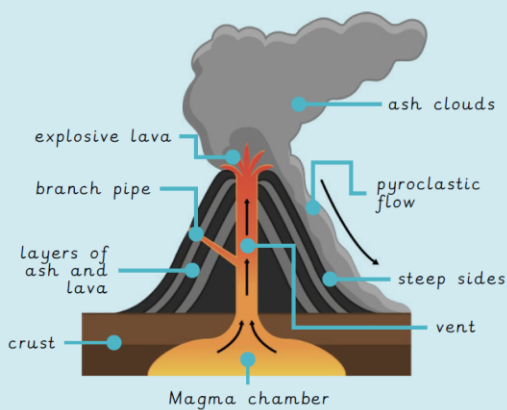
Shield volcano



A less-explosive, gently sloping volcano.

Geography - Why do people live near volcanoes?

Composite volcano



An explosive, steep-sided volcano.

Negative and positive effects of living near a volcano

Negative

- People may be injured or killed.
- Forests and farmland may be destroyed.
- Homes may be destroyed.
- Carbon dioxide emissions contribute to climate change.
- Ash clouds can pollute rivers, killing fish.
- Tsunamis and earthquakes may happen.

Positive

- Rich, fertile soil is created.
- New land is created over time from hardened lava.
- Volcanoes can be beautiful landscapes.
- Hot springs and skin-brightening mud attract tourists.
- Tourism to volcanoes creates jobs.
- Geothermal energy from the steam is environmentally friendly.
- Mining for precious stones and minerals around a volcano creates jobs and provides materials for making jewellery, electronics and other valuable products.

Volcano classification

active

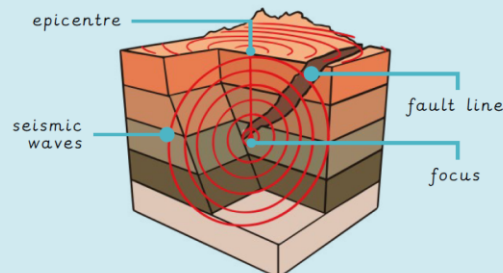
A volcano currently erupting or is likely to erupt soon.

extinct

A volcano that has not erupted in 10,000 years and is not expected to erupt again.

dormant

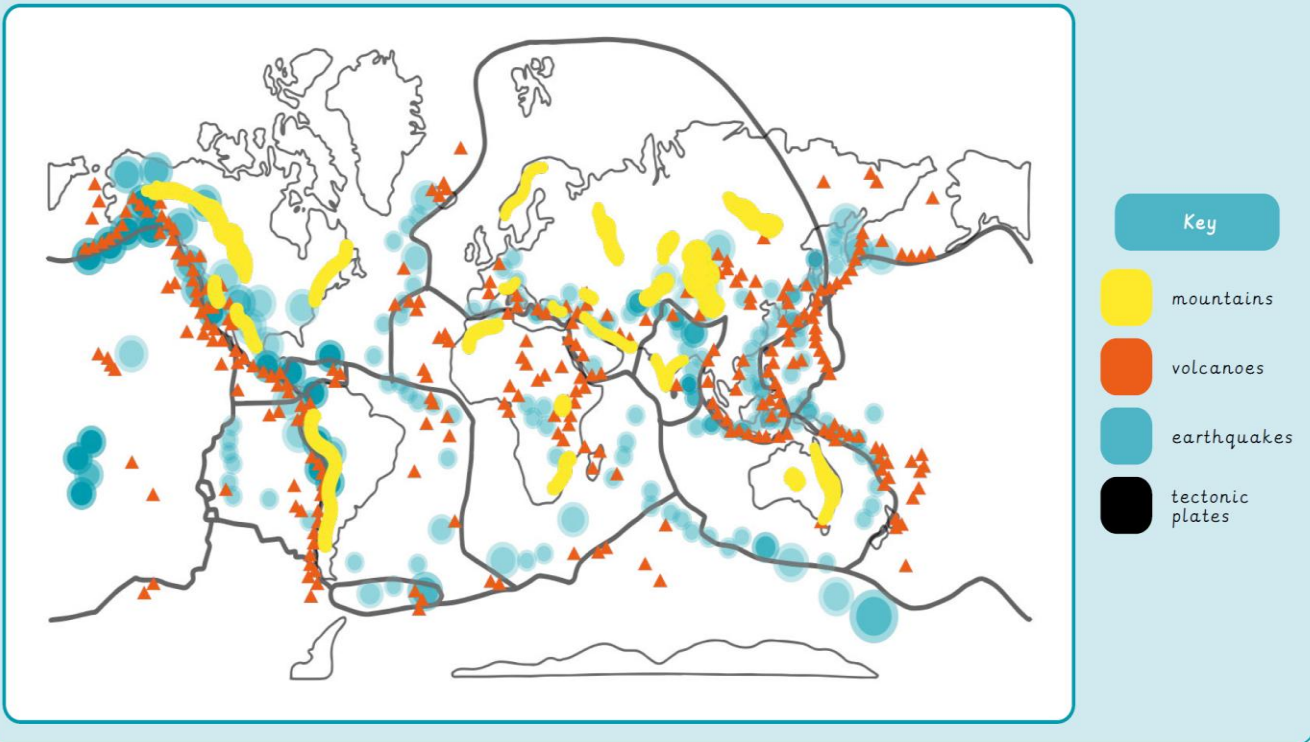
A volcano that may erupt again but has not erupted for a while.



earthquake

A shaking of the ground caused by tectonic plates moving.

Map of mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes



Science Knowledge Organiser

The human skeleton

bone (hard structure that makes up the skeleton)

joint (where two or more bones meet)

skull (protects the brain)

neck

ribs (protect the heart and lungs)

shoulder

spine (if an animal has a spine/backbone, it is a vertebrate)

elbow

wrist

pelvis

hip

knee

ankle

Muscles attach to bones to cause a movement.

A muscle can shorten to **pull** on the **bone**.

Another muscle will need to pull in the opposite direction to change the position.

A vertebrate is an animal with a backbone.

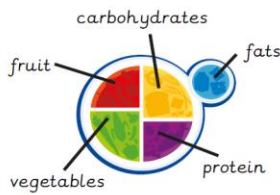
An invertebrate is an animal without a backbone.

Endoskeleton is a skeleton on the inside of the body.

An invertebrate may have an **exoskeleton** (a skeleton on the outside of the body)...

...or no skeleton at all.

There are seven nutrient groups essential for survival. Eating all of these in the right amounts provides a **balanced** diet.



Carbohydrates

Carbohydrates give energy.

Protein

Protein is needed for growth and repair.

Fats and oils

unsaturated

saturated

These are needed as an energy store to keep bodies warm and protect organs.

Fibre

Fibre keeps food moving through the digestive system.

Vitamins and minerals

Vitamins and minerals are important for health and help the body to work. For example, vitamin A (vitamins) is needed for healthy eyes and calcium (minerals) is needed for healthy teeth and bones.

Water

Water helps the body to work, transport nutrients and remove waste.

Year 3 - Spellings

Year 3 and 4 Statutory Spellings

| | | | | | | |
|--------------|-----------|------------|-----------|--------------|------------|-----------|
| accident | calendar | eight | guide | mention | possession | straight |
| accidentally | caught | eighth | heart | minute | possible | strange |
| actual | centre | enough | heart | natural | potatoes | strength |
| actually | century | exercise | height | naughty | pressure | suppose |
| address | certain | experience | history | notice | probably | surprise |
| although | circle | experiment | imagine | occasion | promise | therefore |
| answer | complete | extreme | important | occasionally | purpose | though |
| appear | consider | famous | increase | often | quarter | thought |
| arrive | continue | favourite | interest | opposite | question | through |
| believe | decide | February | island | ordinary | recent | various |
| bicycle | describe | forward | knowledge | particular | regular | weight |
| breath | different | forwards | learn | peculiar | reign | woman |
| breathe | difficult | fruit | length | perhaps | remember | women |
| build | disappear | grammar | library | popular | sentence | |
| busy | early | group | material | position | separate | |
| business | earth | guard | medicine | possess | special | |

Let's get reading...

"Reading at home is like giving your brain a spark of magic!"

"Reading at home helps your brain grow stronger and your imagination soar!"

