

## Topic

In 1914, Ernest Shackleton made his third trip to the Antarctic with his ship, Endurance, planning to cross Antarctica via the South Pole.

This half term, the children will be learning about this legendary expedition to the South Pole and the fate of its crew. They will be taking part in a variety of activities to help them understand the key events of Shackleton's ordeal and the life and death decisions he made on behalf of his crew.

We will be kick starting this topic with a survival day so the children can get a taste of what Shackleton and his men experienced.



## Science—States of Matter

The children will learn to recognise the differences between solids, liquids and gases, as well as thinking about what temperature is and how it can change the state of a material.

## English

Our writing topic will centre around Shackleton's famous expedition. The children will put themselves in the shoes of one of Shackleton's crew and write an extended diary entry about their days stuck on the ice of the Antarctic.

The children will develop their use of dialogue, emotive language, descriptive words and phrases to help the reader understand what the experience was like.

## YEAR 4 SPRING 2 - CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

# ICE TRAP - SHACKLETON'S EXPEDITION

## Maths

This half term, the children will be continuing to develop their understanding of fractions and decimals, along with the four operations and continued times table practise. As well as this, the children will be learning all about money, measurement and time.

As time is often a tricky topic, we would be very appreciative of any additional practice of telling the time that could be completed at home!

As always, we are encouraging the children to keep up with their TTRockstars practice and appreciate your ongoing support with this.

## Reading

**Fiction**  
The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe by C.S Lewis.

We're taking the opportunity this half term to try an old classic! It's cold, it's magical and it's fantastic fun! It's not quite Antarctica, but you'll still have to wrap up warm!

## Non-Fiction

Ice Trap—Shackleton's Incredible Expedition by Meredith Hooper  
You wouldn't want to be on Shackleton's Polar Expedition by Jen Green  
Shackleton's Journey by William Grill

## Article 28

*Every child has the right to an education.*



## Computing - Scratch Programming

The children will be learning to use Scratch to create animations based on Shackleton's Antarctic Expedition.

## Physical Education

In school, the children will be developing their gymnastics skills as well as continuing to work on invasion games.

## Music

The children will be learning all about rock and roll and will be learning to sing using correct breathing techniques.

## RAP - Christianity

In RAP this half term, we will be focusing on forgiveness and how hard it can be to forgive others as well as how forgiveness is shown in the Bible.

## French

We will be looking at types of sport, how to express likes and dislikes and how to ask others about the sports they play.

## Jigsaw - Healthy Me

The children will be learning all about leading a healthy lifestyle.

## Homework

### English and Maths Homework

- Set every **Thursday** to be handed in the following **Wednesday**. Homework for English will be on a sheet and maths homework will be online on MyMaths. A paper homework will also be available for maths. Children are expected to spend between 20-30 minutes on each piece of work.

### Spellings

- Weekly **spellings** are set on a **Wednesday** in the children's diaries, with **4 good quality sentences** to be written in their pink spelling books.
- The test will be the following **Wednesday**.



### Times Table Rockstars

- 10 minutes a day**
- Garage** allows children to practise specific tables that have been set or auto generated

### Home Learning

For this half term's home learning, we would like the children to create an Antarctic Survival Kit. They could either gather the equipment together or draw and label a diagram. More details to follow.