



Dear Parents/Carers

Grab your wetsuit! We're going on a deep sea adventure.

This half term, we'll be focusing on aquariums to gain an insight into the ocean world. We'll sketch different creatures and create clay sculptures of our favourite. Writing poems inspired by our favourite sea creatures will help us to develop a rich vocabulary. Using maps, globes and atlases, we'll identify the world's oceans and seas. We'll also find different ways of grouping living things. Diving back into the 1800s, we'll learn all about the HMS Challenger. We'll research Jacques Cousteau and write biographies about his exciting explorations. As a challenge, we'll create model submarines using recycled materials and program an onscreen submarine. We'll study Antony Gormley's *Another Place* sculpture and write reviews. After locating the Great Barrier Reef on a map, we'll learn about the risks it faces.

At the end of the project, we'll listen to the soothing sounds of whale song and write ballads about whales. We'll invite you to visit our 'Oceans art gallery' and deliver workshops about sustainability.

Curriculum Coverage

ILP focus	Science.
English	Poetry, stories, biographies, persuasive letters, ballads.
Art & design	Observational drawing, 3-D models, clay sculptures, Antony Gormley – <i>Another Place</i> , Batik art, printing, famous seascapes.
Computing	Programming, video editing, multimedia presentations.
D&T	Submarine design, working models.
Geography	Seas and oceans of the world, the Great Barrier Reef, environmental issues.
History	19th century ocean exploration.
Science	Living things and their habitats, animals including humans.

In preparation for this exciting theme, here is some of the vocabulary, which we will be using this term.

aquarium	consumer	current	fish	food chain	habitat
ocean	predator	reptile	seaweed	tropical	abyss
adaptation	algae	coral	invertebrate	vertebrate	marine

Reading

Please continue to listen to your child read. Encourage them to read every day (either to a grown up or on their own) asking them questions about the content, the characters thoughts, feelings and actions and author word choices. Please remember to write in their reading record book and encourage your child to write in it if they have read independently.

Spelling

Please encourage your child to learn their spellings each week ready for a quiz on Fridays.

Home learning

Please encourage your child to practise their times tables and the related division facts – these are key skills that are needed in Year 6.

PE

Your child will need a PE kit every week on Tuesday. Please ensure they have a change of shoes and a pair of shorts and t-shirt. They can also wear trousers and a jumper if it is cold. They will need swimming kit every Friday.

Water Bottles

Please provide a named water bottle for your child that they can refill if needed. Water only please for bottles in class.

Many thanks, the Year 4 team.