

In **Maths** this half term, we will begin by finishing our unit on **multiplication & division**. The children will secure their knowledge of multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1,000. We will then start our next unit, which focuses on **fractions**. This will involve finding equivalent fractions, converting between proper and improper fractions, comparing and ordering fractions and finally adding and subtracting fractions. We will also keep testing times tables every week too!

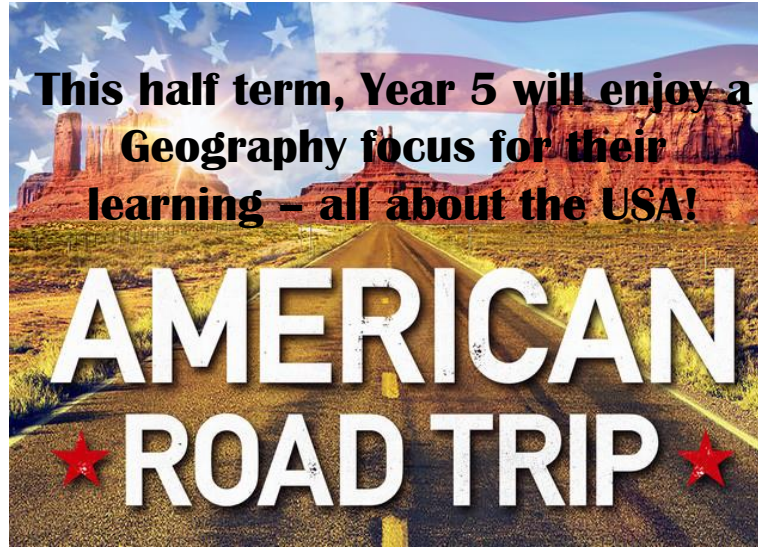
In **Geography**, we are going on our American Road Trip! Children will explore the geography of the USA to understand how it has helped the country become one of the richest and most developed in the world. Looking closely at the great plains of the Midwest, which are superb for agriculture; the coal and fracking industries, which may be better replaced with renewable energies; and the importance of America's coast for trade links, which are needed when importing and exporting goods.

Our **Computing** this term will continue with the work from last half term on the use of technology in Space. This time, the children will deepen their understanding of digital images and use an online 3D design software to create a new tyre for the Mars rover!

Our **RE** will involve considering differences when we look at the significance of interpretation to Christians and the impact on their beliefs and actions. We will be exploring the two different accounts of Jesus' birth by Luke and Matthew and considering whether different interpretations matter to Christians.

#### **Reminders:**

- PE every **Tuesday & Wednesday** – the children need to come to school in their warm & well-layered PE kits. Both PE lessons may be outside.
- Please remember to bring coats, water bottles and healthy playtime snacks each day.



Through our **English**, we will begin the half term by learning about what makes an effective travel brochure – practising their non-fiction writing. In their sentence stacking lessons, they will begin by writing a travel brochure for England and be selling it as a number one tourist destination! Independently, they will then create travel brochures for visiting one of the US States. After this, the children will be studying the poem 'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes and writing their own poems based upon this stimulus. In addition, the children will be writing their own stories to showcase all of their amazing vocabulary, punctuation and grammar learning so far! The children will also be continuing to focus on their grammar, spelling, handwriting, reading fluency and comprehension through discrete lessons across each week.

#### **Our Homework expectations stay the same:**

- Spellings appear on Spelling Shed every week.
- At least four times a week – Reading, reading, reading! How many raffle tickets can the children achieve?
- As much as possible – TT Rockstars.
- After Christmas, we will be introducing weekly SPAG homework.

**PE** this half term will be Fitness on Tuesdays and Dance on Wednesdays. In Fitness, children will explore a range of activities to develop their stamina, co-ordination, balance and strength. In Dance, children will be dancing by chance (creating dynamic routines) and practising some rock 'n' roll moves!

**Science** will focus on Properties and Changes of Materials. The children will work scientifically by carrying out tests to answer questions such as 'How can I keep a drink hotter for longer?'. The children will use their retrieval knowledge from Year 4 to create a simple circuit discovering which materials are best to use as an electrical conductor. The children will also explore the best conditions to dissolve sugar in the quickest time and explore the reasons as to why objects are made from specific materials based on evidence and knowledge.

We will be researching and investigating a range of bridges to begin our unit of structures in **Design and Technology**. We will look at their designs and explore the strength of beam, arch and truss bridges. After our investigations, the children will use a variety of tools to cut and join wood to create their own bridge during our D&T day.

Our **HeartSmart** theme is "Don't Forget to Let Love In" as we explore ways to stay open to the love that is around us and keep ourselves 'topped up' with love. The children will also be learning some basic first aid skills during some additional PSHE lessons.

**Music** will concentrate on unpicking African song and will include learning to play 'Shosholoza'.

In **French**, we will focus specifically on saying and writing days, dates and months.