

20th October 2020

Dear parents,

Re: term 2

As we approach half-term, our thoughts are now turning to Term 2 and our new topic, **Antarctica!** Please see the topic web on the website for specific details.

This doesn't mean that we have ordered Antarctic weather - don't worry! ☺ But we find this a fascinating and enjoyable subject that the children love. The topic focusses on both history and geography, as we look at the story of Shackleton and his famous voyage of discovery on the *Endurance*, as well as at the incredible landscape and climate of this little-known continent.

The first week back, we will be celebrating Lethbridge's first Literature Festival - year 6 will be looking at Anthony Horowitz and his famous novel, *Stormbreaker*, and Year 5 will be studying Matthew Syed and his new book *Dare To Be You*. Our topic-based English writing will focus on Antarctica and will include letters and diary entries written by the crew of the *Endurance*, descriptive writing around Oliver Jeffers' *Lost and Found*, and narrative writing set on board the *Endurance*. Year 6 will be studying light in science next term, year 5 will be looking at forces, and we will be doing some writing based on the science. Please see the curriculum overview on our website for further details of the other subjects and coverage.

On **Friday 18th December** we will be having an end-of-topic **Dressing Up Day**, and as part of this, the children are invited to dress in blue and/or white, or in clothing with Antarctic animals on (e.g. penguins) or as an Antarctic explorer. Please note: this is **entirely optional** (and there are no polar bears in the Antarctic! ☺). Penguin onesies were quite popular the last time we did this...

We look forward to a busy but exciting term, as always. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We look forward to seeing your child back in school on Tuesday 3rd November (as the Monday is a teacher development and training day).

With kind regards,

The Year 5/6 Team