

THE GEOGRAPHY STAR

January 2022

Edition 1

Welcome to the first edition of The Geography Star. We hope you enjoy reading about all the latest geography events at Bournmoor Primary School. Wishing you a fantastic New Year and happy 2022.

Bournmoor's PGQM Goal!

Bournmoor Primary School are going for the Primary Geography Quality Mark (PGQM)! Our target is to achieve the silver award in geography. This project will involve whole school activities such as a field work day, Geography Day and cartography work. Additionally, we will continue to complete our fantastic geography work in lessons and for homework. We want to take this opportunity to thank you for all your continued support. Wish us luck!

As part of this project, each class has elected a chosen representative to become the Geography Ambassador. They will work with Mrs Kershaw to share pupil's ideas and opinions. Also, each pupil has designed a flag with a new school geography motto. The winning design will be made into a banner that will be proudly displayed in our school grounds.



Geography in EYFS

Pupils in EYFS have begun their geography journey by exploring the school grounds. They went on an Autumn walk around the school to discuss what features they saw such as the playground, the science area and the woods. They began to explore the physical features too. Additionally, they discussed what the weather was like as weather is also a part of geography. Experiences like this help to build the foundations of geography skills such as mapping and understanding their sense of place in the world. Great work!



Geography in Year 1

Year 1 have focused on Our Local Area. Pupils know all about where in the world they live; the name of our country as well our city, county and the local area. They can recognise well-known local landmarks such as Tyne Bridge, The Angel of the North and Penshaw Monument. One pupil said, *"The Millennium Bridge is also called the blinking eye because it opens and closes like an eye."*

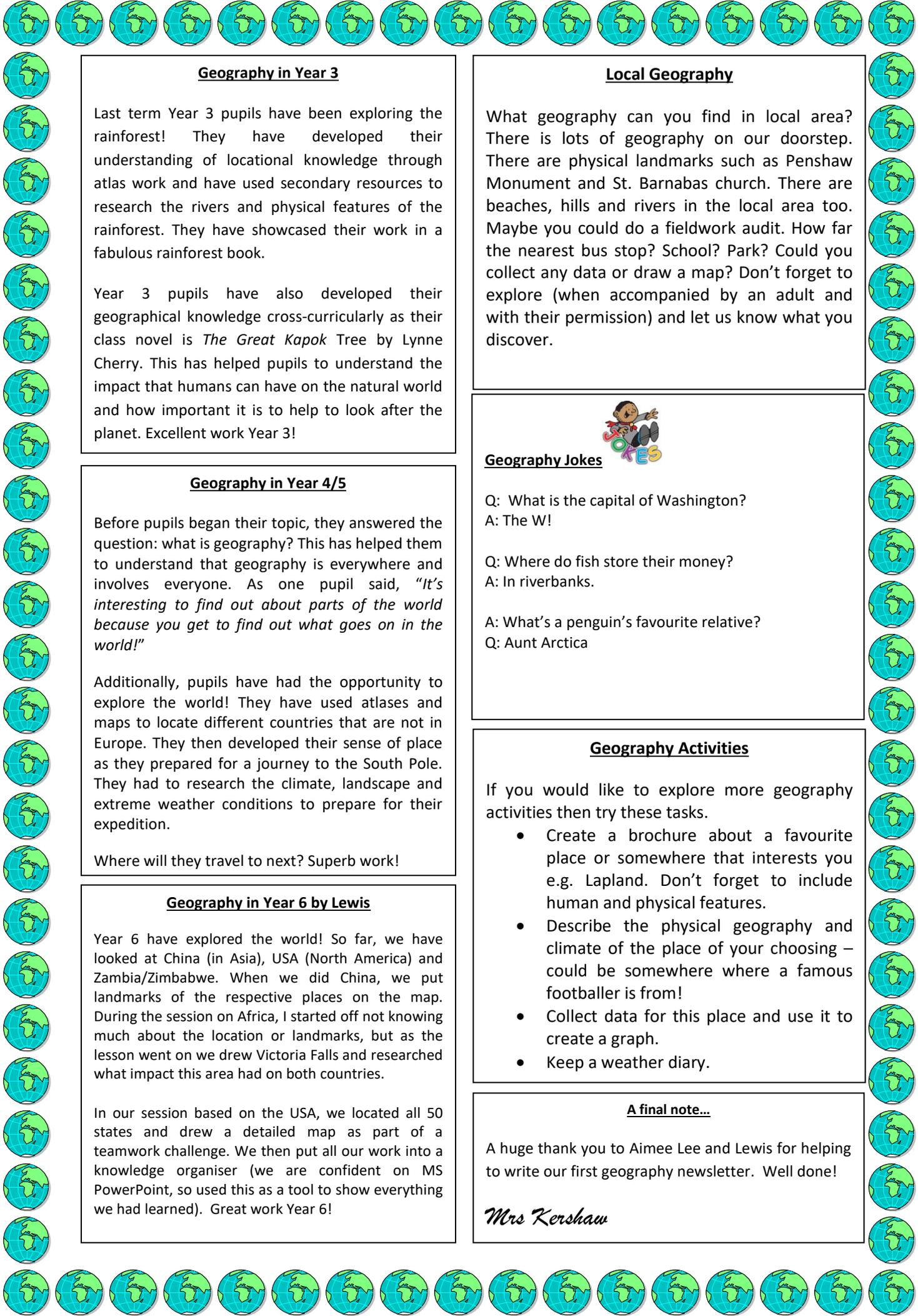
Last term, Year 1 completed a lot of geographical research. Using Google maps, they have navigated around their local area, Africa and Antarctica; listing the similarities and differences between these countries. Pupils noted that, *"Africa is very hot, Antarctica it always snows. At home we get lots of different weather."*

Additionally, Year 1 created a bird's eye view map of the school grounds and they were able to state similarities and differences in physical and human geography. *"Human Geography is made by a person"* and *"physical Geography is made by the world."* From this they explored the school grounds and created a tally chart. From this data they then converted this into a graph. A fantastic term! Well done Year 1!

Geography in Year 2 by Aimee Lee and Mrs Kershaw

During Autumn term, Year 2 started their geographical journey by answering the question: what is geography? They discovered that geography is a study of the world. Next, they focussed their learning on the oceans and continents. Did you know that there are seven continents? Can you name them all? Year 2 can! Year 2 have used maps and atlases to develop their understanding of locational and place knowledge. They also developed their skills by making maps of the world.

Furthermore Year 2 have used atlases to locate the hot and cold countries of the world. They have learnt that countries near the equator are warmer and become colder the further away from the equator they are. They used this information to complete a map with a legend indicating hot, warm, tropical and temperate countries. Great work Year 2!



Geography in Year 3

Last term Year 3 pupils have been exploring the rainforest! They have developed their understanding of locational knowledge through atlas work and have used secondary resources to research the rivers and physical features of the rainforest. They have showcased their work in a fabulous rainforest book.

Year 3 pupils have also developed their geographical knowledge cross-curricularly as their class novel is *The Great Kapok Tree* by Lynne Cherry. This has helped pupils to understand the impact that humans can have on the natural world and how important it is to help to look after the planet. Excellent work Year 3!

Geography in Year 4/5

Before pupils began their topic, they answered the question: what is geography? This has helped them to understand that geography is everywhere and involves everyone. As one pupil said, *"It's interesting to find out about parts of the world because you get to find out what goes on in the world!"*

Additionally, pupils have had the opportunity to explore the world! They have used atlases and maps to locate different countries that are not in Europe. They then developed their sense of place as they prepared for a journey to the South Pole. They had to research the climate, landscape and extreme weather conditions to prepare for their expedition.

Where will they travel to next? Superb work!

Geography in Year 6 by Lewis

Year 6 have explored the world! So far, we have looked at China (in Asia), USA (North America) and Zambia/Zimbabwe. When we did China, we put landmarks of the respective places on the map. During the session on Africa, I started off not knowing much about the location or landmarks, but as the lesson went on we drew Victoria Falls and researched what impact this area had on both countries.

In our session based on the USA, we located all 50 states and drew a detailed map as part of a teamwork challenge. We then put all our work into a knowledge organiser (we are confident on MS PowerPoint, so used this as a tool to show everything we had learned). Great work Year 6!

Local Geography

What geography can you find in local area? There is lots of geography on our doorstep. There are physical landmarks such as Penshaw Monument and St. Barnabas church. There are beaches, hills and rivers in the local area too. Maybe you could do a fieldwork audit. How far the nearest bus stop? School? Park? Could you collect any data or draw a map? Don't forget to explore (when accompanied by an adult and with their permission) and let us know what you discover.



Geography Jokes

Q: What is the capital of Washington?

A: The W!

Q: Where do fish store their money?

A: In riverbanks.

A: What's a penguin's favourite relative?

Q: Aunt Arctica

Geography Activities

If you would like to explore more geography activities then try these tasks.

- Create a brochure about a favourite place or somewhere that interests you e.g. Lapland. Don't forget to include human and physical features.
- Describe the physical geography and climate of the place of your choosing – could be somewhere where a famous footballer is from!
- Collect data for this place and use it to create a graph.
- Keep a weather diary.

A final note...

A huge thank you to Aimee Lee and Lewis for helping to write our first geography newsletter. Well done!

Mrs Kershaw