



"What shall we say the Kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? It is like a mustard seed which is the smallest seed you plant in the ground. Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds of the air can perch in its shade."

The parable of the Mustard seed (Mark 4:30-32)

Year Six

Autumn Term 2026

First Half Term

TEACHER: Mrs Brown & Mrs Collidge

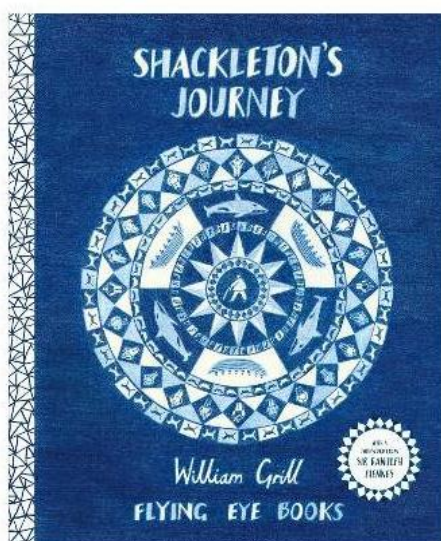
Welcome to Year 6 and the start of an exciting year of learning ahead of us.

This half-term, our geography topic is 'What is life like in the Alps?', which will take us to the Alps and the eight countries that they spread through, exploring their physical and human characteristics, and comparing our local area with the Austrian city of Innsbruck.

In English, we will study the text 'Shackleton's Journey' - a retelling of Ernest Shackleton's perilous expedition to cross the frozen wastelands of Antarctica. The text will develop our vocabulary and comprehension skills, and provide inspiration for our own writing.

In science, we will study living things and their habitats, with opportunities to explore outdoors, handle natural objects, and classify plants and animals.

To enhance our learning and promote a love of reading, we will be sharing the following book:



Shackleton's Journey is a unique visual re-telling Ernest Shackleton's landmark expedition crossing the Antarctic from one pole to the other. William Grill's impeccably researched and informative illustrations celebrate the 100th anniversary since the historic exploration by Shackleton and his crew on Endurance.

The text has a clear factual style as well as thought-provoking illustrations by William Grill which are highly engaging. This gives children an understanding of the period after the Victorians and the start of WW1 and about what life was like in Britain.

Homework:

Homework is given every Friday and is to be handed in by the following **Thursday**:

- The homework tasks are English, spelling and maths.
- Spellings are set weekly and tested on Friday; these focus on the statutory spellings and spelling rules from the National Curriculum for Years 5/6 that the children have been learning in school.
- Reading: we encourage all the children to read **at least 5 times a week** and discuss what they have read with an adult. This should then be recorded in their Accelerated Reader Reading Record. Please discuss new vocabulary with your child and record these words in the Reading Record.
- All children can access myON, an online platform giving them access to digital books, with their individual login, which can be obtained from the class teacher if needed.
<https://www.myon.co.uk/> A myON user guide is available on the school website in Class Pages.

P.E.:

P.E. will be taught by our sports coach Mr Moon or the class teacher.

P.E. lessons are on **Wednesdays and Thursdays**.

It is important that the children come to school in their PE kits on these days. This needs to include an outdoor kit which is joggers, sweatshirt and trainers and indoor kit which is shorts, T-shirt and plimsolls.

Health & Safety reminder:

Long hair must be tied back and no jewellery to be worn during P.E. lessons; if earrings cannot be removed, they require taping over (tape must be provided from home).

Water:

It is important that the children have a reusable water bottle in school each day so they can stay hydrated and are able to concentrate. The children have access to fresh water so they can refill their bottle as needed.

Dates for your diary:

'Meet the teacher' – 3.05pm until 3.30pm Tuesday 1st September 2026
Leicestershire Ensemble Performance – Friday 4th September 2026
Travelling Book Fair – Thursday 24th until Tuesday 29th September 2026
European Languages Day – Friday 25th September 2026
Black History Month – October 2026
Mount Cook Residential – Wednesday 30th September until Friday 2nd October 2026
World Mental Health Day – Friday 9th October 2026
Harvest Festival St Simon & St Jude Church – 10.00am Tuesday 13th October 2026
Parents' Evenings – Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th October 2026
Religion and Beliefs Roadshow – Thursday 15th October 2026

Keep looking at our pages on the website for information and activities. If you have any queries or questions at any time, then please feel free to telephone or email the school office.

Finally, keep an eye on Townland's Facebook page and Weduc for the latest updates and successes.