Year 4 : Autumn Term 2 2026
Volcanoes

Driving Question: What are the advantages and disadvantages of living near a volcano?

Launch: We will create exploding volcanoes in the forest school area and participate in a Now Press Play Volcano session.

Overview: In this topic, we will be learn about the different volcanoes of the world, why they erupt, why some don't erupt, what the different parts of a volcano are called and what the pros and cons are of living near a volcano.

Science

Sound - how sound travels and conducting investigations.

DT

Design a simple structure.

Geography

Volcanoes Exploring the structure and factors of living nearby.

English

Writing - Leon and the place Between.

Reading-The train to impossible places.

Vocabulary

magma
lava
crater
eruption
ash
dormant extinct
active
vent
crust

Learning conversations to have at home:
Talking about school topics at home is a fantastic way to cement your child's learning and boost their vocabulary. Here are a few quick, fun prompts to get a conversation flowing over dinner or on the school run.

- **Ask about the hidden world:** Can you explain the difference between *magma* and *lava*?
- **Explore the three states:** Ask your child to act out or explain what it means if a volcano is *active*, *dormant* (sleeping), or *extinct* (dead).
- **Investigate the Earth:** Ask them what the Earth's *crust* is made of, and how moving pieces of rock (tectonic plates) can cause a volcano to form.

Topic Home learning:
Please select one of these activities and return to your pupils class teacher by Monday 7th December

- Complete a fact file about one of the famous volcanoes of the word, full of fascinating facts and pictures.
- Build a 3D model of a volcano.
- Draw a cross section of a volcano, labelling all of the different parts of a volcano and explain how the eruption happens.

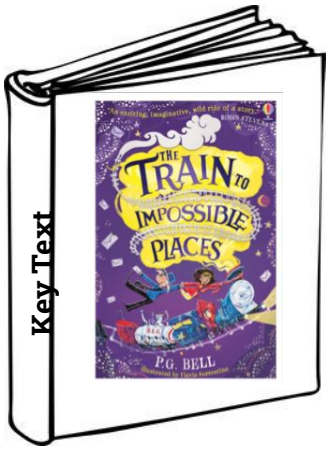
Future Careers:
We will explore a variety of careers that our learning links to including musicians.

Landing:
A musical interpretation of a volcano using Samba drums with an reenactment of an exploding volcano.

Reading This term our key text is *'The Train to impossible Places'- we will discuss words and phrases that capture the reader's interest and imagination. Draw inferences (inferring characters' feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions); justify with evidence and identify main ideas drawn from more than one paragraph and summarise.*

Have you ever been on a train? What was it like?

What is your favourite part of the story?



Which Power Skill can we link to the text?

What impossible place would you like to visit and why?

English- Writing

- ★ To write a diary in role as Leon about his evening at the magic show
- ★ Indicate possession by using the possessive apostrophe with plural nouns

How can you help at home?

- ➔ Hear your child read at least 3 times a week.
- ➔ Support your child to practise their weekly spellings

Maths

- ★ Multiplication
- ★ Area and Perimeter

How can you help at home?

- ➔ Encourage your child to participate in our weekly TTRockstar tournament between classes.
- ➔ Take a look at your garden or an outside space. Can you estimate or measure the area and perimeter?

Science
identify how sounds are made, associating some of them with something vibrating. Find patterns between the pitch of a sound and features of the object that produced it.

Geography
We will be studying volcanoes and thinking about the dangers and benefits of living near a volcano.

Music- Spooky Story will create their own Spooky Story composition, featuring a drum beat, melody and bassline. They will also learn how to underscore their work, preparing them for further exploration in story-writing, music composition and production.

Design and Technology
We are learning about structures.

Computing We are working on e-safety , including the topics of self image, identity and online relationships.

STEM
The goal is to design a durable, high-performance golf putter.

Physical Education - Mondays and Wednesdays
We are continuing our work on Invasion games and Gymnastics.

PSHE
We are learning all about 'Celebrating Differences'

Spanish
We are learning about basic vocabulary and phrases to use in the classroom and at Christmas.

Religious Education
We are asking: What is the most significant part of the nativity story for Christians today?

Dates for the diary : Tuesday 24th and Wednesday 25th November - Rubies Parent Consultations
Wednesday 25th November- Emeralds Parent Consultations
Friday 27th and Monday 30th November - INSET Days. Friday 18th December (1pm finish) - End of Term.