

# Year 5

## Spring 1 – In Your Element



**Main Text**  
**'Kensuke's Kingdom'**  
By  
**Michael Morpurgo**



### Come and See

In our topic on Community, we will be looking at how the Church is led by bishops and archbishops, looking at our own diocese. We will look at how bishops and priests have a mission to live by, and that they are spreading the Good News within their parishes. Our next topic, Eucharist, will look at memorial and sacrifice – particularly of Christ's sacrifice on the Cross, which provides hope for the future.

**Vocabulary:** Mission, bishop, ecumenism, cathedral, diocese, inspirational, Baptism, Christian Unity, Gentile, inspired

### Maths

We begin this half term by studying fractions, decimals and percentages. We will then focus on developing our ability to handle more diverse problems involving fractions, including dividing and multiplying fractions by whole numbers. We will show improper fractions and mixed numbers using pictures and find equivalent fractions by comparing and ordering. Using fractions, we will then look at adding and subtracting fractions, with similar denominators. Towards the end of the half term, we will multiply mixed numbers and improper fractions by whole numbers.



### English

Our main text this half term is 'Kensuke's Kingdom' by Michael Morpurgo, which follows the adventures of a young boy, who is shipwrecked onto a deserted island. This will inspire us to write the following genres: Explanations / desert island decisions, Ship's log entries, Character profiles and sea shanties. In poetry we will learn a wider range of poetry by heart, preparing poems and plays to read aloud and to perform, showing understanding through intonation, tone and volume so that the meaning is clear to an audience. Our topic work on the four elements will also provide us with opportunities to write weather reports and non-chronological reports.

In grammar punctuation and spelling we will focus on the use commas to clarify meaning or avoid ambiguity, we will also use hyphens to avoid ambiguity. We will learn how to use the perfect form of verbs to mark relationships of time and cause. Then we will use modal verbs or adverbs to indicate degrees of possibility.

Spelling involves exploring our understanding of words with the suffixes: 'cious', 'tious', 'cial', 'tial'. We will also explore words with silent letters, or are often confused.

In Guided Reading, we will discuss and evaluate how authors use language, including figurative language, considering the impact on the reader. We will also learn to distinguish between statements of fact and opinion. Finally, we will retrieve, record and present information from non-fiction.

### Science

In our science lessons this half term we will be studying Forces. We will explore the effects of air resistance by observing how different objects such as parachutes and sycamore seeds fall. We will also explore the effects of friction on movement and find out how it slows or stops moving objects.

We will work scientifically by: designing and making a variety of parachutes and carrying out fair tests to determine which designs are the most effective.

**Vocabulary:**

**Force, gravity, Earth, air resistance, water resistance, friction, mechanisms, simple machines, levers, pulleys, gears**



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### Humanities

#### Geography

We will be studying weather and climate– including extreme weather. We will also look at the Beaufort scale, fault lines and volcanoes.

#### History

In our study of the four elements, we will look at the history of the canal network as we became an industrial nation. This includes the design and engineering contributions of James Brindley and Thomas Telford.

#### Vocabulary:

**Physical features, human features, natural features, continent , Equator, position , North Pole, South Pole, scale, contours, precipitation, irrigation, evaporation, condensation**

### STEM

#### DT

In our DT lessons we will be researching, designing and then making our own simple machines: using gears, levers or pulleys, which we will test and evaluate.

#### Computing

In our computing lessons we will be creating media, by exploring video editing. This will involve planning, capturing and editing video to produce a short film.

### Arts

#### Art

Our art will be centred around the four elements: earth, air, fire and water.

#### Music

In our Music lessons we will be singing in the time signatures  $\frac{2}{4}$ ,  $\frac{3}{4}$ ,  $\frac{4}{4}$  and  $\frac{6}{8}$  time, as part of a choir with an understanding that unison/ harmony and chord sequences performance will affect the musical performance.

### PE

#### Tennis

#### Swimming