

# What makes a Great Explorer?

## Year 1 and 2 Newsletter

### Term 5 2025-2026

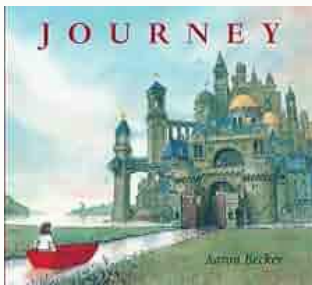
Dear Chestnut families,

Term 5 is all about 'What makes a Great Explorer?'

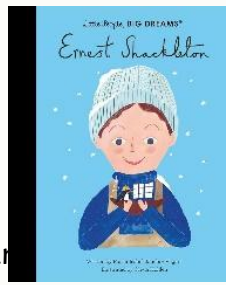
We will look at some famous explorers including Ernest Shackleton and linking this to coastlines and continents.

We will be making sculptures in DT using recyclable resources as well learning more about the Muslim religion, and algorithms.

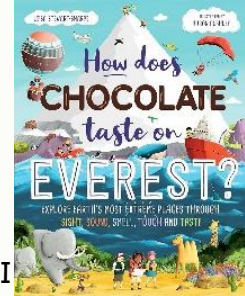
Some of the texts we will be using for our learning are:



Narrative writing



Far



I

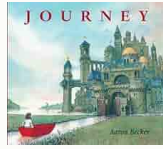
If your child would like to explore the topic further at home they could:

- Make a sculpture from recycled materials. Maybe an explorer's ship or a famous building?
- Research an explorer... Where did they go? What did they find?
- Create an explore logo/badge
- Create an informative text for a place you have explored or a new place you have found out about

# 'What makes a Great Explorer' Learning Map Term 5 2025-2026

## What are we learning this term?

Literacy



Narrative writing

Information texts

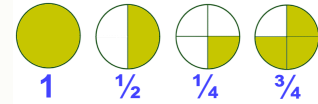
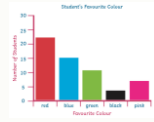
Recounts

Maths

Multiplication and Division

Statistics

Fractions



Science

Observe

Habitats

Questioning



Geography



What do we find on the coast?



Music



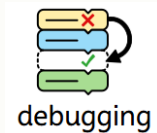
Explore different periods of music



ICT



Algorithms, programming and debugging



PSHE



Being my best



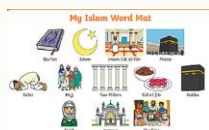
DT



Sculptures and recycled materials



RE



Who is a Muslim and how do they live?



## Home Learning

<b>Reading</b>	<p>Please read with your child <b>at least three times a week</b>, even if it is just for 5 minutes. When reading with your child, please acknowledge the fact that the book has been read by <b><u>recording this on Boom Reader.</u></b></p> <p>During reading sessions, please discuss the story with your child and ask them questions about what they are reading. These questions will help to develop their understanding of what they are reading as comprehension and discussion are key reading skills in Year 1 and 2.</p> <p>Chestnuts' class will have access to the library every day and can choose a book to come home with. This could be a book to read by themselves, to go alongside their phonics reading book, or by an adult. Using our library promotes a love of reading and choosing books that interest them.</p> <p>The reading and phonics books will be changed on a Friday. We aim to collect the folders in on a Wednesday.</p> <p>Please could Year 2 children try to complete their units on Lexia every week. The units that need to be completed are the amount they need to be at the correct standard at the end of Year 2 ready for Year 3. Obviously, being at the required standard will give them a great advantage as they travel into KS2.</p> <p>The teacher's email for Lexia is <a href="mailto:office@parkmead.e-sussex.sch.uk">office@parkmead.e-sussex.sch.uk</a> or <a href="mailto:lexia@parkmead.e-sussex.sch.uk">lexia@parkmead.e-sussex.sch.uk</a></p>
<b>Phonics</b> Year 1	<p>A weekly reading phonics sheet will come home on a Friday to share with you the phonics and words they have covered during the week. We encourage the children to read this as well as their reading books to review the sounds and words they have read that week. These reads can also be logged on Boom reader.</p>
<b>Maths</b>	<p>For <b>optional</b> Maths activities, we are encouraging the children to learn to count in 2's, 3's, 5's and 10's and then begin to learn their 2, 3, 5 and 10 times tables.</p> <p>All Year 2 have access to TT Rockstars. The login information came home in the reading folder at the end of last term. We will be teaching them how to use this programme during maths sessions. Please ask if you need any information.</p>

### Useful information and reminders:

- Please can you make sure your child brings in a **water bottle** so they can drink daily. If they would like to bring a bottle to keep at school during the week and wash and refill it themselves, that is also an option.
- Our PE days are **Monday and Fridays.**
- Please could you check that all clothing for term 5 is **named** including any spare clothes. Some labels can wash out or unpeel in the wash.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Adams and the Chestnuts Team