

Dear Swans,

I hope you have all had an enjoyable week and are pleased to see the return of some sunny, warmer weather! This week, there is a whole school challenge of creating an outdoor sculpture using natural materials – see the separate letter for details. This is an inspiring project which you could really get involved in, get outdoors in that sunshine and think outside the box for what materials you could use in interesting and unexpected ways. Please send in your photos for the website – it is amazing to see what people are doing at home and it may inspire your friends and schoolmates.

For a fresh writing task this week, could you all write a book review of Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief. Remember the usual headings - such as Title and Author, Genre, Main Characters and What They Are Like, Plot Summary, My Opinion - and really give some careful thought and write in full, detailed sentences for those last 2 sections.

I hope you have all been taking the opportunity during Lockdown of doing lots and lots of reading – from our phone calls that certainly seems to be the case. Attached to this letter is the list of books for Years 5 and 6 that we have pinned to the Reading Wall in the classroom, so if you are looking to try a new author or genre of book, there are plenty of ideas on there to get you going (the list is slightly changed with recent updates, so there are some new ones to check out). Another exciting event that is happening this week is the Hay Festival, which is all about books and their authors – find details at [www.hayfestival.com](http://www.hayfestival.com), and go to 'Programmes for Schools'. Throughout the week there are online events featuring loads of authors, starting today with Cressida Cowell talking about the latest Wizards of Once book, and continuing with Liz Pichon and the Tom Gates books, Lucy Worsley and her historical book, as well as some Science Rapping by a guy called Jon Chase. Check out the website for details and dates for these and many others and get inspired to keep on reading!

There are more practical challenges to try at [www.worldchallenge.club](http://www.worldchallenge.club). This has teaching videos and tasks using materials you will have around the home. This week's schedule is - Week Three, "Floating and Sinking": Weds 27th May - Container Ships, Thurs 28th May - Speed Boats, Fri 29th May – Submarines. Sounds like you may have to get wet!

If you are in the mood for some Geography this week, try [www.oddizzi.com](http://www.oddizzi.com). This website has daily challenges with different themes as well as some quizzes on subjects like the world's oceans, continents, countries and flags.

Times Tables Rockstars are holding a World Record Attempt for the most correct answers in a minute – see their website for details. You have to send in a video of you getting a high score on the Studio section, so get practicing as the record is well over 100 in a minute!

Please be aware that with the proposed return to school on 1<sup>st</sup> June for Year 6, this will be the last weekly letter in this format. I will be calling you all tomorrow to discuss the future and the safety measures we will be putting in place to move forward from here. I really hope to see as many Year6s as possible after half term, but for Year 5 and those who don't return, there will be one further letter for the whole next half term, with suggestions of the learning you will be expected to be doing from June onwards. As a heads up, this will involve a project on British garden wildlife, with sections including birds, insects and trees. I will send more details, structure and weblinks on this towards the end of the half term holiday.

Stay safe, and I look forward to speaking to you tomorrow.

Mr Sharp