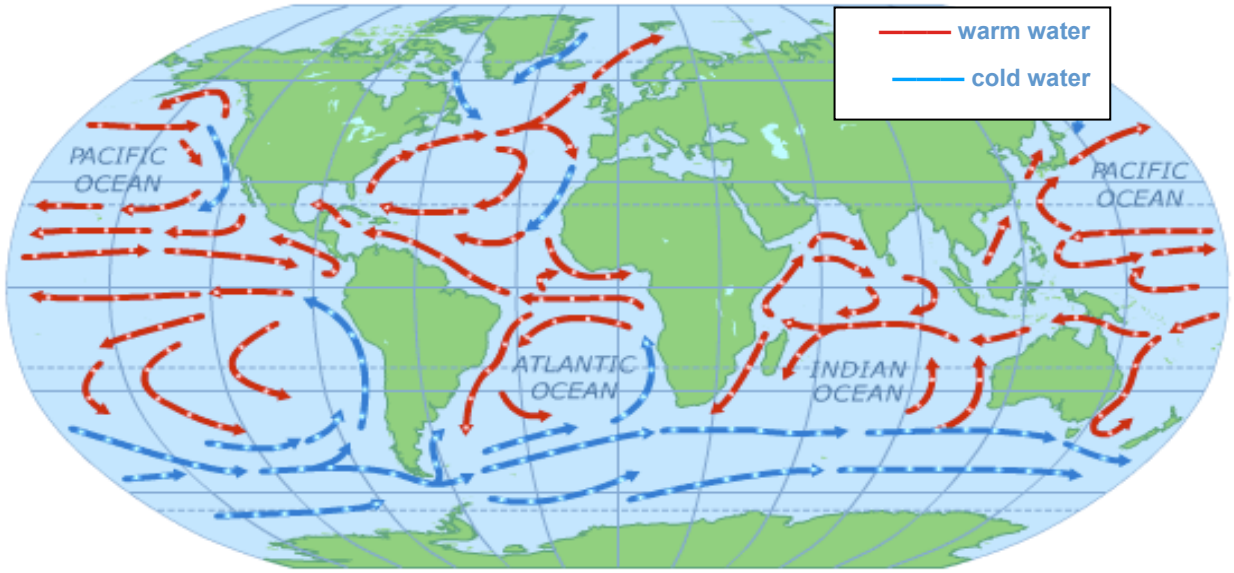
Walk On Water

St. Paul's C of E VA Primary and Nursery School
Knowledge Organiser

With God ALL THINGS ARE possible

Geography	Year 6	Ocean Currents

Key Information



Key Information
1. A current is a continuous flow of water in the ocean. Gyres and can flow for thousands of miles and travel clockwise in the northern hemisphere and anticlockwise in the southern hemi sphere.
2. Surface currents are usually caused by the wind. As the wind changes, the current may change as well.
3. Deep ocean currents are caused by a number of things including changes in the tempera-ture, salinity and density of the water.
4. Another factor impacting ocean currents is the gravitational pull of the Moon and the Sun. Plastic pollution is also transported by ocean currents.
5. One major example of an ocean current is the Gulf Stream in the Atlantic Ocean. Ocean currents affect weather patterns around the world: they transport warm water to colder are-as and cold water to warmer ones.

Key Vocabulary

Current	A continuous movement of ocean water from one place to another.
Ocean Gyre	A large system of currents travelling in circular movements.
Hemisphere	The northern or southern half of the globe (split at the equator).
Pollution	Poisonous or dirty substances which are not natural in that environment.
Coriolis Effect	The influence of the rotation of the Earth causing currents to flow clockwise in the northern hemisphere and anti-clockwise in the southern hemisphere.
Salinity	How salty the water is.



The 'Great Pacific Gar-bage Patch' is located in the North Pacific Ocean to the west of California.

Plastic waste is transported around the world via Ocean cur-rents. This kills wildlife who ingest it or become trapped in it as well as spoil-ing landscapes.

How can you help?