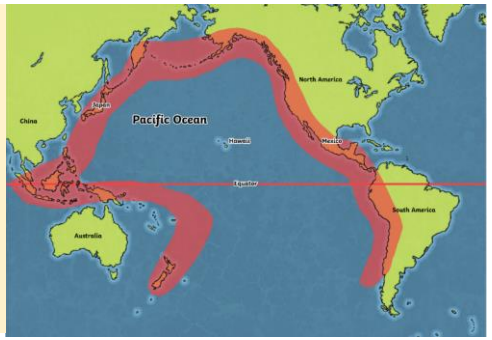
Knowledge Organiser Science – Mountains, Volcanoes and Earthquakes

Vocabulary		
1	magma	Molten rock in the mantle.
2	crust	The Earth's crust is its outer layer.
3	mantle	The part of the earth between the crust and the core.
4	tectonic plate	A section of the Earth's crust.
5	plate margin	The line between two tectonic plates.
6	mountain range	A line of mountains.
7	fold mountain	Mountains formed when tectonic plates collide and cause the plates to wrinkle.
8	collide	If two or more moving people or objects **collide**, they crash into one another.
9	volcano	A mountain that erupts magma, rock, ash and gas.
10	erupt	When a volcano **erupts**, it throws out a lot of hot, melted rock called lava, as well as ash and steam.
11	earthquake	The sudden jump of tectonic plates to create violent shaking.
12	tsunami	Large ocean wave caused by underwater earthquake or volcanic eruption.

The "Ring of Fire" is an area of the Pacific Ocean that is shaped like a horseshoe. It is where three quarters of the world's volcanoes are found.



Key learning	
1	The Earth's crust is not one continuous piece, it is made up of tectonic plates that overlap to cover the entire planet. These plates are continually moving very slowly. Earthquakes are caused when the tectonic plates pull and push against each other.
2	Some earthquakes can occur under the ocean, leading to a tsunami. A tsunami happens when an earthquake causes large waves to form in the sea, these can be over 30m high.
3	Mount Everest is the highest mountain in the world. It is 8,848 metres high and it is thought that Mount Everest is between 50 and 60 million years old.
4	A volcano is a type of mountain that has a hole (vent) in it, which allows magma, rock, ash and gas to erupt out. The magma, rock, ash and gas come from the mantle underneath the Earth's crust. When magma reaches the Earth's surface it is called lava.

Key knowledge		
1	Volcanoes	Most of the world's volcanoes are composite volcanoes; made of layers of lava and ash; steep sides; tall. Volcanoes erupt when magma rises to the surface
2	Earth structure	The Earth is made up of different layers: crust, mantle, outer core, inner core. 