

Welcome to Year 5 2016

Dear Parents

Welcome to the 1st half of the Spring term. We hope you enjoyed your recent break, and that you are looking forward to the exciting activities we have planned for Year 5 between now and Easter!

We hope that by working together we can make this a happy and very productive half-term for your child, offering them interesting and challenging activities and experiences and ensuring that they make the best possible progress with their learning.

This half term will be having fun exploring the topic of **'They made a difference'** so the children know about the lives of some major historical figures in their own and other cultures.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to pop in for a chat (the best time is at 3.30 pm). We will be happy to speak to you and/or make an appointment for a more lengthy discussion.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Douce

Some Important Reminders...

Uniforms and Coats. We would be grateful if these could be clearly named. Please also label items of PE kit. Please ensure children bring a coat to school every day, even if the weather is warm that morning. The English weather can soon change so we like to be prepared!

Reading. Your child has a guided reading session once a week with their class teacher. They also have an opportunity to read their new reading book in class each week. It is therefore vital that reading books are returned every day. A shared reading session at home is very valuable.

Homework. Spellings are sent home on a Friday and should be learned at home, ready for a spelling test on the following Friday. Each Monday children will be given times tables to learn for a mini test on a Friday. Homework will be sent out on a Friday and needs to be completed and returned to school by the following Friday. Please encourage your child to complete and return homework as this is a chance for them to further develop skills which have been taught in class.

English. We will be learning how to create powerful imagery through our writing – composing and rehearsing sentences orally, progressively building a varied and rich vocabulary and an increasing range of sentence structures.

Maths. This half term the children will consolidate what they learned last term as well as looking at Geometry and Shape, Position and Direction, Place Value, Ratio and Proportion. Cross-curricula links will include data handling in Science and measuring accurately.

Science. Changing Materials

Art / DT. Children will be researching, designing and creating using a variety of materials.

Music. Children will be learning how to play a brass instrument – details will follow shortly.

P.E. Coaches will continue to support Year 5 this term in PE.

This term our PE is Swimming on a Monday and Coach on a Friday. For indoor activities, a t-shirt, shorts and indoor gym shoes are recommended. For our outdoor activities your child will need suitable training shoes, shorts and a t-shirt, although jogging bottoms and a sweatshirt for colder weather would also be advisable.

Religious Education. Beautiful world. Wonderful God.

Pupils will be enabled to:

- Begin to appreciate the beauty of the natural world and make their own responses to it.*
- Understand the responsibilities they have in caring for our world.*
- Consider their own beliefs about creation and understand the Christian beliefs about the creation of the world.*
- Know and understand what the Bible teaches about the relationship between God and mankind and how mankind destroyed their privileged position in God's world.*

Personal, Social, Health Education. Going for Goals. – E Safety awareness, keeping ourselves safe.

Top tips for Year 5 parents



- Encourage your child to read every day (20 minutes would be ideal).
- Even if your child is already a fluent reader, you can still support him/her by exploring their understanding of what they have read e.g. Describe what has happened so far. How does character 'A' feel, what do you think he/she will do next, why?
- Practise their times tables, every day! They are expected to know all tables up to 12 x 12.
- Encourage your child to pay for things at shops, working out the expected change.
- Practise telling the time, both digital and analogue. E.g. If I pick you up at 6 o'clock how long will you have at the swimming pool?
- Encourage children to look at tables and charts to figure out how they work e.g. train timetables, television schedules.
- Ask your child about their school topics and how their knowledge is progressing. What experience do you have in these areas amongst your family and friends?
- Take an interest in their homework; make sure they hand it in on time. If your child has not understood what they need to do and you are unsure how best to explain, get them to ask the teacher as soon as possible.
- Encourage your child to become more independent – they will need to be next year. Help them to develop strategies for making sure they have everything they need at school rather than packing their bag for them!

Attendance and Punctuality

Please ensure your child is **on-time** for school every day. There is a staff member 'on duty', on the playground, from 8.45. Doors to classrooms open at 8.45. Good **attendance** is important, as it has a direct effect on learning. Children should not take time-off unless absolutely necessary. We award certificates and prizes for good attendance. We are aiming for 98%-100% - please play your part in helping us to meet this ambitious target.