

Dear Parents

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

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.

For the first half of the Summer Term, Year 5's topic will be **Global Gardens**. The topic will cover many aspects and subject areas including: History, Geography, Science, PE, Design and Technology, Art, Music and RE.

In Geography we will identify the position and significance of latitude, longitude, Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, Arctic and Antarctic Circle, the Prime/Greenwich Meridian and time zones (including day and night).

- physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts, rivers, mountains, volcanoes and earthquakes and the water cycle
- human geography, including: types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water

In Science the focus is on Life Cycles and Scientific Enquiry.

For PE children will be trying to improve their fitness levels. Coaches will continue to support Year 5 this term in PE. Year 5 will also be taking part in the Bikeability programme.

This term our PE is on a Tuesday with Mr Burrows and a 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.

In Design and Technology children will be focusing on where food is grown (such as tomatoes, wheat and potatoes), reared (such as pigs, chickens and cattle) and caught (such as fish) in the UK, Europe and the wider world

We will be looking at how seasons may affect the food available and how food is processed into ingredients that can be eaten or used in cooking. We hope to spend some time preparing and cooking a variety of predominantly savoury dishes safely and hygienically including, where appropriate, the use of a heat source and how to use a range of techniques such as peeling, chopping, slicing, grating, mixing, spreading, kneading and baking.

For Art children will be creating sketch books to record their observations and use them to review and revisit ideas.

In RE Year 5 will studying the Religious Beliefs and Lifestyles in **Buddism**.

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 practice in using 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.

We hope your children will thoroughly enjoy this exciting project and we are grateful for the support of our parents.

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.
Each child will be issued with a homework book this term. Homework will be sent out on a Friday and needs to be completed and returned to school by the following Friday unless it is a longer project. 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.

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.