

13th April 2016

Year 5 Summer Newsletter 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you all had an enjoyable Easter holiday and that your child is refreshed for a new term. This newsletter is designed to outline some of the topics your child will be covering this term and it will also give you information on other events that will be happening.

Numeracy

We will continue to split the Year 5 class for numeracy on Weds-Fri, so your child will either be taught by myself or Mrs Carmen. They need to try and use their numeracy skills outside of school as much as possible, for example get them to help with counting money and calculating change when shopping or measuring ingredients when cooking. Please also help your child learn all of their times tables – by the end of Year 5 we expect children to know all of them from x2 to x12. Maths homework will be given out on a Friday to be completed by the Tuesday (this is a change as there will now be homework clubs after school on a Monday). Please support your child with making sure homework is done on time.

Literacy

We have started work on a unit based on non-fiction texts about explorers. This will result in the children creating their own explorers guidebook for a fictional 'lost city' that they will invent. Later in the term we will be revisiting the poetry of Charles Causley and Michael Rosen and looking in depth at a famous Shakespeare play. Throughout all our Year 5 work there will also be grammar work, in order to make sure the children are prepared for the new expectations in Year 6. Weekly spelling lists will continue to be given out on a Monday morning and your child will normally be tested on these spellings on a Friday.

Reading

Each child has a reading record book. This is for them to record any reading they do at home (either on their own or with someone), to write down any reading homework set within guided reading sessions and for you to write a comment about your child's reading. Please read with your child at home and discuss and ask questions about what you are reading with them. Check that they understand what they have read and help them to use the internet or a dictionary to look up any unfamiliar words.

Science

Our science topic for the first half term is life cycles and reproduction – learning about the life cycles of certain animals and the reproduction process for some plants and animals. Please encourage your child to continue learning at home using the internet and/or the library. Our next science topic will be human development, where we will learn about the different stages and changes in a human's life. This

will include learning about puberty – more details about this will be given nearer the time and you will have an opportunity to come to a meeting to find out exactly what we will be teaching as part of their puberty lessons.

Computing

The class will be continuing to work on their class website (which at some point this term we will put live on the internet) and will be learning about issues such as copyright and keeping safe on the internet as we work on this project. We will also be continuing to expand our digital literacy skills this term though using a variety of different software on the desktop computers and the iPads.

P.E.

PE is on a Tuesday and Friday. Your child needs blue shorts or tracksuit trousers with a white t-shirt and plimsolls / trainers. It is extremely important that your child always has their P.E. kit in school even on days when we're not due to have PE as schedules can often change.

Enquiry Curriculum

We are studying the topic of the ancient Maya civilization. Through this we will explore many aspects of their lives, including food, religion, buildings, sports, inventions, art and much more. Again, please encourage them to continue with their learning at home. A home activity pack for this term will shortly be sent out with lots of ideas of work to do at home related to this topic.

R.E.

In Religious Education we will begin this term by looking at Buddhism, and we will hopefully be visiting the Buddhist temple in Wimbledon at some point. In the second half of the term we will move onto looking at pilgrimages across different religions.

We will also be resuming **French** lessons after having taken a break for the singing project last term and we will also continue to have circle time as part of our **PSHE** sessions.

This is the last term of the academic year and it is essential that your child is encouraged to work towards ending year 5 in a positive manner. You can help them do this by making sure they complete any homework they have been given on time, and also encouraging them in their schoolwork.

If you need to discuss anything with me at any time, I am normally available at the beginning and end of each school day. Alternatively, you can arrange a separate appointment to see me. You will receive a written report towards the end of term summarising your child's progress and achievements this academic year.

Thank you for your support throughout the year.

Chris Goymer
Year 5 Class Teacher