

14<sup>th</sup> January 2016

# Year 5 Spring Newsletter 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

Below is an update about some of the work we are doing this term and events that have been organised:

## **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. Please encourage them to 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. As last term, maths homework will be given out on a Friday to be completed by the following Monday. Please support your child with making sure it's done.

## **Literacy**

We are currently working on a unit of work based around the novel 'Oranges In No-Man's Land' by Elizabeth Laird. Later in the term we will be revisiting the poetry of Charles Causley and Michael Rosen and learning about writing persuasive letters. Weekly spelling lists will continue to be given out on a Monday morning and your child will be tested on these spellings on a Friday.

## **Reading**

Your child should have a reading record book in their folder. 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 forces – such as gravity, friction and air resistance. Please encourage discussion at home about how forces such as these are all around us in everyday life. Our next science topic will be living things and their habitats (life cycles and reproduction of animals and plants).

## **Computing**

The class has recently continued their learning about coding through a project day using a programmable robotic device called Sphero. We will 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 for indoors (although these are optional) and appropriate trainers for outdoors. 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.

**Enquiry Curriculum**

We are studying the topic of the Amazon River – learning about the river and its effect on the people and landscape around it. We will also be comparing it to a river near us – the River Thames. In art we are thinking about and creating rainforest inspired artwork. Please encourage your children to continue their learning at home by visiting the library or using the internet to find out more about the Amazon River and Brazil in general. A home activity pack for this term will shortly be sent home with lots of ideas of work to do at home related to our topic.

**R.E.**

In Religious Education we will begin this term by looking at Judaism. In the second half of the term we will move onto looking at the Islamic Prophets.

**Music**

This is a very exciting term for Year 5 as we are taking part in a singing project organised by Wandsworth Music Service. We will be singing in a big concert at the Royal Festival Hall on the 21<sup>st</sup> March alongside other schools. Details of how to buy tickets will be sent out shortly.

Finally, can you please make sure that all school uniform and PE kit is clearly named with your child's name and year group, as this makes it a lot easier to reunite it with its owner should it ever get lost and avoids a lot of confusion!

If you need to discuss anything with me, I am normally available at the beginning and end of a school day. Alternatively, you can arrange a separate appointment to see me.

Kindest regards,

Chris Goymer  
Year 5 Teacher