

28<sup>th</sup> April 2017

# Year 5 Summer Newsletter 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you all had an enjoyable Easter holiday and that your child is feeling 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. We do a weekly times table test and the results of this is sent home with your child on a Friday so you can see their progress. Maths homework is also given out on a Friday to be completed by the Tuesday. 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. Please support them with spending at least 10mins each day learning these spellings and putting them into sentences.

## **Reading**

It is crucial that Year 5 children are doing as much reading as possible outside of school – please encourage them with this and help them to find a range of reading materials that they want to read for pleasure. Please also continue to read with your children at home (or get them to read to you!) and discuss and ask questions about what they are reading. 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 in these puberty lessons.

### **Computing**

The class will be working on their own blog (which at some point this term we will put live on the internet) and through this learning about issues such as copyright and keeping safe on the internet. 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.**

The days on which PE takes place can vary between weeks so children need to make sure they have their full PE kit in school from Monday to Friday. Your child needs blue shorts or tracksuit trousers with a white t-shirt and plimsolls / trainers. PE is a compulsory part of their education and they must have a written note from home if there is a reason for them not being able to take part.

### **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 be visiting the Buddhist temple in Wimbledon as part of our learning. 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 / Sam Wilson

Year 5 Class Teachers