

Year 5 Autumn Newsletter 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back. I hope that you had a good summer and that your child feels refreshed and ready for the year ahead. I look forward to working with your child over the next year and hope that they enjoy the range of topics that we will be covering. Below is some information about some of the work we will be doing in Year 5 this term:

Numeracy

Maths lessons take place every day. We split the class for numeracy, so your child will either be taught by myself or Mrs Carmen. Some of the things we will be learning about include: place value (understanding the value of any digit in a number with up to 4 or 5 digits, e.g. what is the value of the 4 in 5,849?); addition and subtraction (+ -); number patterns (e.g. what number would come next in this sequence: 3,7,11,...?); rounding whole numbers and decimals (e.g. round 8.6 to the nearest whole number); adding and subtracting decimals (e.g. $5.6 + 2.3 = ?$); shapes and measures; data handling; solving problems; reading the time; and fractions (e.g. $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{2}{6}$) and percentages (e.g. 35%, 70%). Maths homework will normally be given on a Friday and is expected to be completed by the following Tuesday – please support your child with ensuring that this is done on time. The homework will either be an online activity using Abacus or a separate written/practical activity.

Literacy

English lessons take place every day and to begin with we will be learning about the poetry of Charles Causley and studying a variety of his poems. After this we will move onto a unit of work based around the Michael Morpurgo story 'Friend or Foe'. This is followed by a study of non-fiction texts about migrating animals. This term's literacy work also includes performance work based around creating raps and work to support their understanding and knowledge of spelling and grammar.

Reading

Year 5 have a reading record at school which is used to record any reading sessions that they take part in with a staff member. This can also be taken home for them to record any independent reading they do outside of school and for you to write any comments about your child's reading. You can support your child's reading by still reading with them at least 2/3 times a week - Year 5 are still not too old to be read to!

Spellings

Spellings are normally given out on a Monday and tested on a Friday. Please ensure your child practises these at home. Please help them with any difficulties they may have with understanding what the words mean. The most effective way of learning them is to go over the spellings each night for ten minutes using the 'look, cover, write, check method'. On the new spelling sheet that they get on a Monday will also be the result from the previous week's test.

Homework

- Spellings on a Monday to be practised throughout the week until Friday.
- Maths homework on a Friday to be completed by Tuesday.
- Home learning tasks (to be given out in the next couple of weeks) for them to complete throughout the term.
- There is an expectation that there is also regular practise of times tables facts at home throughout the term.

Science

Our two science topics for the term are 'Earth and Space' and 'Properties and Changes of Materials'. Please ask your child what they have been learning about and if possible help them to find out more information from the library or on the Internet.

Computing

Computing now has more emphasis on children learning about coding – how to make computer software. During this autumn term we shall be using software such as Espresso Coding and Kodu for children to learn more about coding. Kodu and other coding software are available to download for free if children are interested in being able to continue and extend this learning at home.

P.E.

PE will normally take place on Mondays and Wednesdays. Your child will need blue shorts or tracksuit trousers with a white t-shirt and plimsolls for indoors and appropriate trainers for outdoors. Trainers are not allowed to be worn indoors, so if they do not have plimsolls they will need to do it barefoot. It is extremely important that your child always has their P.E. kit in school every day of the week in case of changes in timetable.

Enquiry Curriculum

Year 5's enquiry based topic for the autumn term is the Tudors. We have two trips planned already to support this topic: in October we will be visiting Hampton Court Palace and in November we will be visiting the National Portrait Gallery. You will receive more information about these trips nearer the time.

R.E.

In Religious Education we will begin the term by looking at harvest festival and then move onto learning about Christian buildings.

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.

If you have any questions or concerns you wish to discuss with me about your child's development and experiences at school, please feel free to make an appointment to come and see me. There will be a general 'Meet the Teacher' session on Thursday 22nd September at 3.30pm. I am looking forward to the year ahead and hope that together we can make a positive contribution to your child's education.

Kindest regards,

Chris Goymer / Sam Wilson

Year 5 Cedar Teacher / Year 5 Chestnut Teacher