



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Curriculum Newsletter – Year 5 – Spring Term 2018

Welcome back after the Christmas break. We hope the children are well rested and ready for learning! These are some of the curriculum activities planned for this term.

Mathematics

In accordance with the 2014 Curriculum for Mathematics, pupils will be taught strategies for:

- calculating, using multiplication and division, addition and subtraction both mentally and using written strategies
- counting and understanding number properties; converting improper fractions to a mixed numbers; comparing, ordering and reducing fractions.
- understanding shape properties of 2D shapes; classifying quadrilaterals, drawing and calculating angles in a triangle
- handling data, including grouped frequency tables and drawing and interpreting bar graphs
- understanding measures: using and converting between metric units of length and weight
- using and applying (problem solving):

Please ensure that your child is continuously practising their times tables in order to support their learning in the classroom. **All pupils entering year 5 are expected to know all their times tables up to twelve including the related division facts.**

Literacy

This term in Literacy, pupils will be developing a range of literacy skills. We will be focusing on the processes of writing, for example drafting, editing and presentation, for both narrative and non-narrative writing. After completing the narrative unit based on Elizabeth Liard's, *'Oranges in No Man's Land,'* pupils will learn how to write letters, description using figurative language and from the perspective of characters in the book. They will also be learning about newspaper report and play scripts: reading a variety, evaluating them and writing their own. Your child will continue to practise using joined handwriting and developing their spelling strategies using the Read Write Inc. programme. Reading continues to be an integral skill across the curriculum, which enhances progress in all areas. We will be reading and evaluating a variety of texts (fiction, non-fiction and poetry) to develop the children's comprehension skills. Please ensure your child is reading every day for at least 15 minutes and discuss what has been read to ensure that they have understood the text. They will have a reading section in their link book for you to check and sign.

Science

Throughout the year the children will be developing their scientific enquiry. Our science topics for this half-term are 'Life Cycles' and 'Earth and Beyond'. Children will be given homework activities linked to this topic to deepen and develop their understanding. They will be learning about Life Cycles of Animals, Birds and Plants which links with their trip to The Wetlands Centre in Barnes.

History

Our History topic for this term is Ancient Greece. Pupils will explore aspects of the Ancient Greek Empire developing their research skills, using the resources from the school library and the internet. They use a range of archaeological and written sources, select and record information and interpret the past in different ways.

RE

In RE this term, the children will be exploring the Qur'an and why it is important to Muslims. In the second RE day, the children will be learning about Places of Worship.

Art

Art this term will be linked to the Ancient Greeks. The children will be exploring Ancient Greek patterns and they will develop their own designs using these as a starting point. They will look at pottery and explore ways of building up clay to create their own containers. The children will continue to build on their skills and have opportunities to explore ways of drawing, painting, using collage and creating textures with a variety of materials.

Computing

Our initial focus is on teaching pupils basic skills on the computer and subsequently focusing on e-safety. The use of Computing skills will be encouraged across other areas of the curriculum. The children will be continuing to develop their skills and knowledge of Graphic Modelling using the Google Sketch program to create their own virtual galleries. After this, the children will be learning about social media, with close links to e-safety, understanding the networks for communication and collaboration.

P.E.

Pupils will be developing skills used in net and wall games with a focus on badminton. They will also be developing their invasion skills through a 'uni-hoc' unit. Year 5 will be continuing to have swimming lessons at Highgrove Pool. Further details about arrangements and dates for swimming will follow in a separate letter if you have not received one already.

PHSE

Our foci this term are Dreams and Goals and Healthy Me. Pupils will continue to develop their knowledge and understanding about their Rights and will also be identifying what makes a 'Learner for Life' and choosing targets for themselves to develop this term. They will also be learning about 'Growth Mind-set'.

Music

The first half term will see the children developing their ability to extend their sound vocabulary, including the use of electronic sounds and to compose a soundscape based on space. Children will explore a wide range of sound sources to capture, explore, change and communicate sounds. They will make expressive use of vocal and instrumental possibilities to create and structure compositions in groups and share these with the class.

The second half term will develop and demonstrate the children's ability to take part in a year group performance with confidence, expression and control. Children will sing and play a two-part song, and rehearse and develop musical and performance ideas with understanding of how to achieve a quality performance.

Homework

This will include:

- A numeracy activity on Mathematics - based on the topic being covered in class for that period (approximately 7 tasks every second week) or a written activity set by the teacher.

As well as the above written homework, it is expected that the children:

- Revise times tables daily in order to be able to recall all times tables up to 12 instantly and their corresponding division facts.
- Read with every day with an adult or independently for at least 15 minutes, discuss what has been read and keep a record in the link book.

Homework will be given out by all year 5 teachers on Thursday and collected the following Wednesday. Should your child be unable to complete homework by the required day, please kindly inform the teacher concerned via a note in the link book. We provide a homework club once a week for the children who prefer to do some of it at school with support. Should your child fail to return the homework on time, without notification, they will be required to stay in during break time to complete their homework.

Your child's class teacher will contact you if your child frequently and consistently does not complete their homework on time.

Yours faithfully,

Miss Williams

Miss Machado

Miss Gattuso

Miss Deller