

Welcome back, Year 5!

Dear parents,

Happy New Year! We hope you have all had a fantastic Christmas break and that your child has enjoyed their first week back at school. We are greatly looking forward to the term ahead, as we are sure the children are too.

English

During English lessons, children will be developing their ability to write in a range of styles, altering their language use and the presentation to suit different types of writing. English lessons will also reinforce the Year 5 spelling, punctuation and grammar objectives. During the first half term, children will be reading 'Arthur and the Golden Rope' written by Joe Todd-Stanton. The children will be creating characters and their own settings in order to produce a myth. Following this, we will study 'The Darkest Dark' by Chris Hadfield. The children will focus on using real life facts and dates, thematic language specific to the topic and engaging the reader through the use of feelings and opinions in their writing in order to write a biography about Chris Hadfield.

Maths

Maths lessons will follow the White Rose Maths Hub scheme of learning, and will focus on fractions, multiplication and division, decimals and percentages, and perimeter and area. Our maths lessons will aim to build children's mental maths, problem solving techniques and overall mathematical subject knowledge. Please ensure that your child engages with 'Times Tables Rock Stars' at home to help build their recall of multiplication and division facts.

Science

In science, we are currently finishing our 'Materials' topic. Following this, 'Animals Including Humans' will be our next topic, and our topic after half term will be 'Earth and Space'. Children will build their understanding of these topics whilst developing their ability to work scientifically.

French

In French this term, our topics include 'At the Market' and 'Clothes'.

Geography

Our topic for spring term is 'Biomes' which will provide children with opportunities to learn about this aspect of the geography curriculum. During this topic, children will learn about key aspects of: physical geography, including: climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts. This topic will enable lots of opportunities for researching the different characteristics and locations of each biome as well as providing pupils with the chance to use maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied.

P.E

P.E. will take place on Tuesday afternoons for Rowan (taught by Mrs Beech) and Tuesday mornings for Larch (taught by Mr Bell). Both classes have an additional P.E. session on Thursday afternoons. Children must come to school wearing their P.E. kits on these days. Please ensure earrings are taken out on P.E. days (or, if the ears are newly pierced, children must apply their own medical tape).

P.S.H.E.

This half term, our P.S.H.E. lessons will focus on 'Dreams and Goals'. This will enable the children to think about their own aspirations and how they can achieve these goals, and the emotions that go with this.

R.E.

Mrs Harrison-Smith will continue to teach R.E. on Thursday afternoons to both classes.

Homework

Homework will be set every week for maths, English and spelling.

Maths and English - Given out Friday and to be handed in by the following Wednesday. Times Table Rock Stars should also be completed at home.

Spelling - These will be sent home on Fridays and tested the following week.

Reading

Reading skills will be taught through a whole class approach, following the 'Pathways to Read' scheme. During the first half term, we will be reading 'Odd and the Frost Giants' by Neil Gaiman and we will be focusing on how to draw inferences using evidence from the text. During the second half term, the reading focus will be on 'Exploring Space' by The Literacy Company. We will be identifying how language, structure and presentation contribute to meaning, as well as learning to distinguish between fact and opinion. Please discuss books and reading choices with your child and continue to listen to them reading aloud when possible.

Uniform

To avoid any lost property, please make sure that all of your child's clothing, including coats and jackets, are marked with your child's name. Please ensure that your child comes to school wearing the correct uniform and has the correct P.E. kit for lessons (white t-shirt, dark shorts/tracksuit bottoms and a jumper during colder months). If your child has pierced ears, please could these be taken out for P.E. days or by themselves prior to the P.E. lesson. This also applies to afterschool sports clubs/activities. In addition, we do ask that if your child has long hair that they tie it back for school.

Home Time

With permission, your child is allowed to walk to and from school. If you would like your child to walk home from school, please contact the school office to give permission if you have not done so already. Please make sure that the office has your correct contact details and that you inform them about any changes.

Mobile Phones

With permission, your child can bring their mobile phone into school for safety purposes when walking to and from school. All mobile phones are safely stored within the classroom and are to be taken home at the end of the day. Mobile phones must be switched off during the school day. Mobile phones are not to be used on the playground before or after school.

Water Bottles

Please ensure that your child has a clearly labelled water bottle in school. Water bottles must only contain water as no juice or squash is allowed.

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to ask the office for a phone call.

Best Wishes,

Mrs Beech and Mr Bell