



Aston Tower Primary School

Year 5 Autumn 1

English

Reading

During our reading sessions, children in Year 5 will be enjoying a selection of texts from both classical and contemporary authors. We have started this term with the poem 'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes, focusing on language and interpreting the meaning of the text.

Throughout the term, we will be exploring diaries, discussions, arguments and instructions.

Writing

Our reading and writing sessions are closely linked, and we will be exploring a range of writing including: creating instruction texts, writing a diary from different characters' perspectives and balancing arguments from two perspectives. Each writing session focuses on how texts are constructed and composed. We are focusing on the content of each piece, whilst examining its features and style of writing.

How you can help your child at home:

- Read a range of texts and books at home, expanding knowledge of different genres and styles of writing, focusing on quality vocabulary.
- Practice weekly spellings with your child, looking for patterns and rules, which can be applied to similar words.
- After your child has read a passage of text or a book, ask questions that further develop their understanding of what they have just read.

Questions like:

"How does the character feel at the end of the story?"

"Summarise the story in thirty words."

"Which character did you like the most? Why?"

Mathematics

In mathematics this half term, we are exploring the four operations and the ways in which questions can be solved. In lessons, we will turn our attention to adding and subtracting numbers with more than four digits and solving division and multiplication problems including numbers up to four digits. Before the half term is through, we will turn our attention to fractions and the relationship to decimal notation.

How you can help your child at home

- Continue to practice and learn multiplication tables up to 12 x 12.
- Pose problems to your child such as: "If I have 10 lots of thirteen sweets, how many would I have?" – This enables children to develop a greater understanding of practical mathematics and apply the skills they have learnt in lessons to reasoning.
- Encourage your child to draw comparisons between fractions and decimals (example: $\frac{1}{2}$ is the same as 0.5).
- Give your child opportunities to practice their skills and knowledge of written multiplication and division methods they have been shown in class.

Science

This half term in Science, Year 5 will be studying at Properties and Changes of Materials. Children will be looking at how properties can be used to describe certain materials. Children will explore what a solution is and the various processes in which materials can be separated from mixtures. Some of these involve evaporation, filtering and sieving. Children will understand the differences between reversible and irreversible changes.

How you can help your child at home:

- Ask your child to describe properties of materials around the home.
- Children can explore which materials can be separated through certain processes, e.g., sand and water can be separated through filtering.
- Children can look at which physical changes, such as melting or freezing are reversible and irreversible.

History

Our history topic this half term is the Ancient Greeks. Throughout our topic, we will be researching: the significant events that formed part of the Greek empire, how democracy and politics were formulated, Greek Gods and Goddesses and significant wars throughout the Ancient Greeks history.

We will be using our investigative skills to delve deeper into historical sources and artefacts, drawing our own conclusions about what life was like in Ancient Greece and what it would have been like to live at that time.

How you can help your child at home:

- Allow your child to research life in Ancient Greece, focusing on religion, traditions, food and life in Greece around 500BC.
- Research buildings in Ancient Greece compared to buildings in modern day Greece. Look for similarities and differences. Are any buildings still standing from the Ancient Greek times?

Computing

Our computing sessions this half term will be looking at computer systems and networks. We will explore how information can be shared via the internet and online operating systems, whilst thinking about how we can keep safe and make sure our information is safe online.

Through our investigations and observations, we will be designing our own digital toy, which needs to be user friendly but also contains information that is sent and received from one device to another.

How you can help your child at home:

- Look for practical and real world examples of operating systems that are controlled electronically – bus stops, rail boards and digital signs. Compare different objects and systems, focusing on how they suit their purpose and what could be done to further improve them.

Art

Throughout the half term, we will be exploring what is meant by 'subtractive drawing' (drawing in the negative) through the use of charcoal and an eraser to create an image of a landscape.

We will be looking at what abstract art is and how lines can show harmony within landscape painting.

During the topic, we will be looking at the works of Frank Auerbach and Friedensreich Hundertwasser – using their works to draw inspiration for our own creations.

How you can help your child at home:

- Encourage your child to have a look at the art works of Auerbach and Hundertwasser – think of what is interesting about their works, e.g. colours, the lines?

Physical Education (PE)

This half term, we are exploring the skills associated with Football. During this topic, we will learn how to pass and receive the ball, defending and increasing tactical awareness in a game situation. Children will learn how to control a football and use this to their advantage. We will look at a range of activities to practice and hone skills before placing them into 'in-game' situations.

How you can help your child at home:

- Encourage your child to stay active at home – playing with friends or family is a great way to keep our bodies active and healthy.
- Take break from consoles and devices to exercise and try new things.
- Walk to school regularly – walking is a great form of exercise and helps the body to wake up and gain energy.