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Newsletter

### What we have been up to:

In Year 5 we have been incredibly busy and working really hard. The children have become more aware and have been learning about the effects of Carbon Monoxide and how to stay safe.

In Science we have been making parachutes and learning about what makes a parachute fall more slowly. The children enjoyed competing in our house art Competition.

The Christmas performance 'Stories on the Playground' was a huge success and it was great to see so many parents supporting and enjoying the efforts of the children. The annual Christmas pantomime 'Jack and the Beanstalk' at The Royal and Derngate in Northampton. The children had a fantastic time during the performance.

To wrap up the term, we had our Christmas party on Thursday. This consisted of a carousel of three different activities followed by snacks. The children have earned a well earned christmas break!

### English

Following us learning about biographies, we will be going on to look at autobiographies . We will start by looking at extracts from Malala Yousafzai and Anne Frank's autobiographies.

We will be reading 'Who Let the Gods Out?' by Maz Evans

#### How can I help at home?

- Reading an autobiography at home with your child - this helps with recognising features of the text, vocabulary and comprehension..
- Visit KS2 Bitesize for some games and activities that link with spelling and grammar.
- Practise spellings daily..

### Maths

We will be returning to Multiplication and Division during the first part of the Spring term. Within this unit, we will be looking and multiplying a four-digit number by a two-digit number, which is a new key skill that Year 5s are exposed to. We then move onto division looking at efficient methods, working with remainders and problem solving. After this, we revisit fractions where again we learn new skills such as multiplying fractions, fractions of amounts and fractions as operators.

#### How can I help at home?

- Practise times tables (TTRS, rote learning, Hit the Button).
- Fractions and the four operations
- Measurement including metric and imperial measures.
- Asking your child to add up shopping items or to convert measurements when cooking.

### Science

In Science we will be looking at Living Things and Their Habitats' this includes the reproduction of plants, life cycles of birds and mammals, endangered species and researching important people in this field.

#### How can I help at home?

- Have fun growing your own vegetables/ plants and what it takes to look after them.
- Discuss life cycles/ food chains of animals.



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### PD

This half term the children will be studying the theme of Dreams and Goals. They will be considering what their future lifestyle choices might be and what would make a dream job

#### ***How can I help at home?***

Discuss different jobs and responsibilities that the children might like to do in the future. Share your dreams and goals with the children and what you did to achieve what you have done.

### History

This half term we will be diving into Ancient Greece. We will be learning about what made the Ancient Greeks so powerful, how they lived and about Greek Gods.

### Computing

This half term we will be looking at [microbits](#). These are small a pocket-sized computer that introduces you to how software and hardware work together. We will be looking at how to program these using sequence, selection and repetition

### Art

The first half of term pupils will be making their 'All about me' shoeboxes. A collage box containing photos, images and items personal to them.

#### ***How can I help at home?***

Help your child to select images to include in their box.

### Performing Arts

This half term, pupils will be looking at the musical *Matilda* in their Drama lessons. They will be given scripts from the play which they will set in groups as well as having the opportunity to create their own scenes using drama conventions and characterisation skills.

Year 5 will learning about gospel music, the history of gospel music and how to sing some gospel inspired songs. We'll be learning how to sing 'Ain't no mountain high enough' and 'Oh happy day'.

### Design Technology

Pupils will be starting their new project of shoe box bedrooms. They will be understanding the concept of a plan view and designing their bedrooms using this technique.

#### ***How can I help at home?***

Send your child into school with a shoebox.

### French

This half term we pupils be learning sports and activities in French. Pupils will learn to give their opinions about various sports and use conjunctions to extend their sentences. We will listen to French people talking about sports and have conversations about sports in French.

#### ***How can I help at home?***

**Practise French at [www.linguascope.com](http://www.linguascope.com)  
Password: castle1 Username: newwords**

### Reminders / Key Dates:

4th January - Return to school

2nd February - Number Day

6th February - Children's mental health week

10th February - Break Up for Half Term

### Sharing Our Learning

We have launched new social media channels to help share the fantastic learning that is going on in our year group.

We'd love you to follow us and see what we've been up to:

[Twitter](#)  
[Instagram](#)