

Year 5 Autumn 1 Newsletter

To kick the new school year off with a bang, we used 'The Promise' by Nicola Davies as a stimulus for some predictions, inferences and cityscape art in the style of the illustrator Laura Carlin. The text is a story of great beauty

and hope about the power we have to transform our world. We read this to help the children appreciate how wonderful it is to care for our society and environment around us and how a little contribution can make a huge difference.



After this we move onto Marcus Sedgwick's 'Floodland' as our core text in English for the rest of the term. The text follows the plight of a girl called Zoe in a dystopian land covered by water. Zoe lives alone on the island of Norwich, lost by her parents in the

rush to escape. Desperate to survive the marauding gangs, she digs a derelict boat out of the mud and makes her way to Eels Island, only to find that this island is dominated by danger too. The children will write an eerie setting description of the desolate Eels Cathedral at the heart of this cautionary tale.

Our core text links perfectly to our Water World geography topic this half term. Over the course of this unit the children will learn about the water cycle, how rivers are formed and their importance, water scarcity across the globe and debate the merits of clean renewable energy.

In Maths, the children will begin the term by comparing, ordering and rounding numbers up to one million. They will then recap on using column addition and subtraction, before moving onto multistep problems.

In Art this half term, we will focus on understanding retrofuturism, developing skills in evaluating images and creating art through various drawing processes, including collagraph printmaking. It emphasises the development of pupils' independent artistic skills and their ability to generate, test, and refine ideas in their sketchbooks, leading to a final piece of artwork. As part of our P.E curriculum, the Year 5 children will complete a two week intensive swimming programme at the London Aquatic Centre within the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. Furthermore, the children will walk to and from the swimming centre each day, clocking up an impressive 50km over the two weeks.

In Science, our unit is materials: mixtures and separation. In this unit, we will be exploring different types of mixtures and the appropriate methods to separate them.

• Useful Information:

- Ensure your child reads for 20 minutes every day. This book needs to be taken home to read and brought back to school for daily independent reading each morning. Rather than using reading records, children will demonstrate their understanding of their home reading book through interactive quizzes that they will take at school.
- Children will be given a list of weekly spellings to practise at home throughout the week in preparation for the Friday spelling test.
- On Fridays from Week 3, we will be doing short weekly arithmetic tests to consolidate pupil's learning and to improve their fluency.
- Y5 PE:
 - Children will need to come into school and return home from school in their PE kit (with suitable footwear).
- <u>PE days:</u> Mondays and Thursdays
- <u>All children must have a kit</u>. They will be asked to wear a spare kit if they do not bring their own.
- <u>To help us out, please:</u>
- Ensure that your child is wearing sensible and practical footwear for PE.
- Ensure long hair is tied up.
- Remind children that jewellery has to be removed for PE. If ear studs are new, they will need to be



covered for the lesson.

• Most children have already learnt their times tables from Year 4. If there are any that need brushing up, some practice at home will help greatly with maths at school.

YEAR 5 TEAM 2024