

Rushey Green Primary School

Year 5 Class Newsletter - Spring 2 2021

Dear Year 5, Parents and Guardians,

We would like to start by saying a big thank you to all of you for your hard work and dedication. We recognise that, at times, it must have felt unusual transitioning from the classroom to remote learning, but we have seen growing participation from all pupils and continued support from parents and carers. As a result, we are confident that next term will be even more successful.

Included in this newsletter, are details outlining this term's learning journeys, covering the different subjects. We have ensured that the journeys are linked and progressive to maximise attainment.

Thank you, The Year 5 Team.

This term our topic is about 'Islamic Golden Age'

In English this half term, we will be focusing on the book 'Hidden Figures', by Margot Lee Shetterly. The storyline of the book lends itself to deep classroom discussions and as a means to target writing features such as: identifying purpose of writing, selecting appropriate grammar and vocabulary and building cohesion.

In Maths this half term, we are going to be looking at fractions. We will look at different representations of fractions; explore practical exploration of equivalent fractions; master improper fractions; lastly, understand fractions of an amount.

In Science, this term, we will be looking at Physics exploring the topic Earth and Space. We will be exploring facts about the Sun, Moon and Earth, to develop an understanding of day and night, the four seasons and the Moon's phases. We will also investigate how the Sun and planets make up our Solar System, along with the other stars in their constellations.

In RE we will be looking at Christianity, exploring beliefs in action in the world. This will incorporate how religions and beliefs respond to global issues of human rights, fairness, social justice and the importance of the environment.

In History we will be looking at Islamic Civilization where we will be exploring a non-European society that provides contrasts with British history. The children will be learning about how an ancient civilization grew so strong when the odds against it were so huge. We will also look at the characteristics features of an ancient society and compare it with the state of Britain.

Start and End times to the day

The school day starts at **8.45 am**. This allows for a 15-minute registration time so that lessons can begin promptly at 9.00 am. It is extremely important that your child attends school on time and **every day**. Children arriving late can be unsettling not just for your child, but the entire class.

In addition, it is important that you collect your child on time (3.15 pm) as this ensures the staff have time to prepare the class and resources for the next day.

When learning online from home

Please make sure your child is logged on by 9.00am for registration and attend all the live sessions and follow the daily timetable.

Homework

Your child should be reading every day and should be reading a combination of fiction and non-fiction.

Excellent online website for learning

BBC Bitesize has a huge range of online lessons in English and maths, tailored to your child's key stage. You can use these to supplement what your child is learning at school.



7 Top Tips to Support Key Stage 2 Children Reading at Home

Shared reading is a great way to develop children's language and communication and to boost their reading skills. Regular reading routines can offer lots of opportunities for learning during school closures—these tips are aimed at supporting children in Key Stage 2.

- 1 Concentrate on reading quality (it isn't all about reading lots!)**  Don't worry too much about the 'what' and 'how' of reading each day. Books are great—but leaflets, comics, recipes and instructions on a webpage can all be great too. Why not set your child a reading challenge: How many different things can you read in a day?
 - 2 Ask your child lots of questions**  All reading matters. Shared reading is about 'reading with', not just 'reading to'. Why not take turns to read a page each of a longer novel? So, ask lots of 'Wh' questions, such as Who? What? When? Where? Why? Try them when talking about books: for example, 'what do you think Harry is feeling?'
 - 3 Ask your child to make predictions about what they have read**  If it is a book, look at the front cover—or the last chapter—and talk about what might happen next. Look for clues in the book and be a reading detective! For example, 'can you see the fox on the front cover? Why do you think he's so sad?'
 - 4 Ask your child to summarise what they have read**  When you've finished reading, talk about what happened. Think about how the characters behaved and interesting things that happened in the plot. You could encourage your child to keep a **reading diary**, describing the big ideas of each chapter.
 - 5 Ask your child to write about what they have read**  Write, or draw pictures, from anything you've read! Big writing and pictures are even more fun. For example, use an old roll of wallpaper (or chalk on a path) and draw around your child. Ask them to fill the outline with lots of information about the main character.
 - 6 Read and discuss reading with friends or family**  Make books a part of the family. Encourage your child to share them with a relative or friend, over a video call. Laugh about them when you are making meals together. For example, 'you could use your slimepower to help me cook tea tonight.'
 - 7 Maintain the motivation to read**  Talk about the joy of reading whenever you can. Give your child choices about what they read, being in control is great motivation! Encourage them to recommend books to family and friends. For example, 'you should read this book, Grandad, because you love funny stories.'
- Follow the TRUST steps**  Follow the TRUST steps and keep your child talking about reading