

Dear Parents,

We hope that you have all had a lovely Christmas and New Year.

Communication

If you have any questions, please continue to email the school office and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Topics this term

This term, we will be basing our literacy work around the book 'The Flying Books of Morris Lessmore.' Our non-fiction unit will be writing a journal based around a Mars transmission. We will be exploring characters, settings and effective vocabulary and grammar choices. In addition, we will have a focus on non-fiction texts, which will link strongly with our science topics.

The punctuation and grammar focus will continue to be relative clauses and pronouns, modal verbs, parenthesis, using brackets, dashes and commas, with time for consolidation of subordinate clauses and subordinating and coordinating conjunctions. We will once again be strongly revising the use of basic punctuation and sentence structure. We will still be sending spellings home each week and will use dictations and spelling tests to check spelling knowledge, normally on a Friday. The spellings sent home will reflect the patterns learnt in the weekly spelling lesson, as well as incorporating words from the Year 5/6 spelling list. Handwriting continues to be an important focus and a joined, fluent, consistent style is encouraged and expected.

We are continuing to encourage the children to try reading some of the books from the reading list that was sent home at the beginning of the year. These books are all available to borrow from the school library. Each child will continue to be able to borrow two books from the library.

In Maths this term, we will be covering the following objectives from the Year 5 curriculum:

- Fractions- Equivalent fractions, improper fractions, mixed numbers and ordering fractions. We will also focus on the addition and subtraction of fractions - mixed numbers and breaking the whole.
- Multiplication- Multiplying up to 4 digits by 2 digits.
- Division- Dividing up to 4 digits by 1 digit.
- Fractions-Multiplying unit/non-unit fractions and calculating fractions of amounts.

We will continue to focus on securing fluency with number facts and would strongly encourage children to spend time on TT Rockstars at home, in order to reinforce and consolidate knowledge of times tables facts.

History - We will be studying the Ancient Maya, as our non-European civilisation.

Geography - Our geography topic is What Shapes our World. Focus: Physical and human features, erosion, tectonic plates and rivers.

Science - Our topics will be 'Materials and their properties' and 'Living Things and animals including humans'.

Computing - E-safety- passwords. Flat file data bases, computer systems and networks. We will identify what a system is and how we can work online collaboratively. We will also have E-safety units on managing online information and online relationships.

Art - Linked to our history topic, we will be doing drawing and printing projects related to the Ancient Maya. We will be producing detailed sketches of Mayan figures and Mayan script, and will be creating Mayan glyphs. We will be creating negative and positive print images by designing and making a tile.

D&T - Finishing Moving vehicles. We will then be celebrating culture and seasonality, with a focus on cooking and nutrition. We will be creating a seasonal soup.

RE - Our topics will be 'What do Christians believe about God?' and 'Why is the Last Supper So Important to Christians?'

French- Units will be 'Chez moi'- looking at places of habitation.

Music- Our topics will be a singing unit- 'Medina tun Nabi.'

PSHE/ RSE- This term in PSHE our topic is Relationships. We will focus on our communication, speaking and listening skills to begin the term by working on our debating skills. We will then move on to looking at ways to resolve conflicts with our friends and how to respect other people's differing points of view or opinions. We will end the term by looking at why friends are so important in our lives and what makes a good friend. If you have any questions or concerns about any of these topics, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Timetable

Our PE day is still a Friday. Please remember that your child should continue to come to school already dressed for PE. Our classes will continue to access Forest Schools throughout the year and we will let you know in advance so that appropriate clothing can be worn to school on those days.

Homework

Children will receive Maths, English or topic related homework on a Friday, to be completed by the following Wednesday.

We hope your child will enjoy the new term and if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Hague and Mr Reilly