

Curriculum Newsletter Y5



Dear Parents/Carers,

We would like to start by saying that the children have been exceptional, embracing their work and producing some wonderful pieces across the curriculum, in what I am sure you will agree are difficult circumstances. We are extremely proud!

Continuing to work in Year 5 after Christmas will be Mr Jefferies and Miss Wood. We also have Mr Newton delivering Music and DFC Coaching delivering PE on a Wednesday morning. As well as this, we have support from Miss Icton and Mr Robinson.

Building on the fabulous work completed this term, children will continue to write a variety of fiction in English, linking as much as we can to our class topic and our class texts, including 'The Jamie Drake Equation' by Christopher Edge. The children will also be immersed in non-fiction writing making close links with the current topics, producing for example non-chronological reports, instructions and explanations. The SPaG agenda is incorporated into what we are teaching, ensuring that children's spelling, punctuation and grammar continues to improve. It is clear to see that the children are using the variety of sentence types and punctuation in their homework too, which is great to see.

In Maths, we are covering multiplication and division, fractions, decimals and percentages. We will also be focussing on problem solving skills, developing logical thinking and working systematically. This will involve real life problems. Schofield and Sims will continue as in the Autumn term and we will move children on to different books or sections where appropriate. This has proved to be very successful in improving mental maths strategies and the children greatly benefit from their weekly marking sessions where strategies are discussed for reasoning and problem solving.

Our topic after Christmas is Earth and Space and our enquiry question is 'Is there Life on Mars?' This will be followed by a local study about Yarm with 'The History of Yarm: Fact or Fiction?' as the question. The main driver of the first topic is Science, learning about the Sun, Earth and Moon, and this is linked with Art where we will focus on the work of Peter Thorpe, whose work is based on sci-fi images. The latter topic is History-driven, looking at recounts of days gone by in Yarm and establishing some of the facts from some of the fiction.

As well as these main topics, the children will also be covering other areas of the curriculum in discreet lessons. Our Computing will focus heavily on coding - using an app called Swift Playgrounds - where the children will learn to develop code and debug incorrect coding. In PE, the children will be developing their hockey skills in their weekly PE session with DFE Coaching. RE will involve children looking at the Sikh religion's place of worship and some of the themes in the Easter story. In PSHE, the children will

participate in weekly circle times and will follow the SEAL scheme of work. The topic next term will be *Going for Goals* and there will also be work linked to the impact of lifestyle, exercise, drugs and the media on our bodies. There will be a talk about puberty at some point next half term. If you would like any information, do not hesitate to contact us.

We will be updating the class blogs weekly (access via the school website), where you will get a flavour of the learning the children have been involved in. Any comments would be appreciated and greatly received by the pupils.

Thank you for your support around homework. The children enjoy seeing their work shared in class and it is clear that they are using their learning from school to consolidate and stretch their understanding further. Children who do not upload their homework will miss their Golden Time and complete their homework then, a system the children are familiar with. Please also find attached a copy of the national curriculum Year 5 and 6 spelling list (exception words) which you may wish to support your child in learning. Children are also expected to practise their times tables and read regularly at home. We recommend reading at home regularly to support the work that we do in school through weekly guided reading sessions. Discussing texts with your child also supports their understanding.

There are a number of websites that we recommend to support your child's learning at home. These include:

www.sumdog.com

www.educationcity.com

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/interactive/>

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/>

If there is anything you would like to know more information about, then please don't hesitate to speak to a member of the Year Five team.

Thank you for your support,

Miss Wood and Mr Jefferies

Year 5 and 6 Spelling List

accommodate	develop	parliament
accompany	dictionary	persuade
according	disastrous	physical
achieve	embarrass	prejudice
aggressive	environment	privilege
amateur	equipment	profession
ancient	especially	programme
apparent	exaggerate	pronunciation
appreciate	excellent	queue
attached	existence	recognise
available	explanation	recommend
average	familiar	relevant
awkward	foreign	restaurant
bargain	forty	rhyme
bruise	frequently	rhythm
category	government	sacrifice
cemetery	guarantee	secretary
committee	harass	shoulder
communicate	hindrance	signature
community	identity	sincere(ly)
competition	immediate(ly)	soldier
conscience*	individual	stomach
conscious*	interfere	sufficient
controversy	interrupt	suggest
convenience	language	symbol
correspond	leisure	system
criticise (critic + ise)	lightning	temperature
curiosity	marvellous	thorough
definite	mischievous	twelfth
desperate	muscle	variety
determined	necessary	vegetable
	neighbour	vehicle
	nuisance	yacht
	occupy	
	occur	
	opportunity	