

Curriculum Newsletter Y5



Dear Parents/Carers,

It doesn't seem like five minutes since writing the last newsletter and welcoming you all into Year 5, yet here we are almost half way through the year. So far this year the children have been exceptional, embracing their work and producing some wonderful pieces across the curriculum.

Continuing to work in Year 5 is typically Mr Jefferies and Miss Mowbray. We also have Mr Newton delivering Music and DFC Coaching delivering PE on a Wednesday afternoon. As well as this, we have support from Mr Clements, Miss Dale, Mr Robinson, Mrs Gray, Mrs Whitaker and Mrs Butterwick.

Just a reminder about Parents' Evening, it is scheduled to take place on the 10th and 11th February. Look out for the signup sheet in the coming weeks. If there is anything you would like to discuss with us before then, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Building on the fabulous work completed before Christmas, 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.

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, with children moving onto Section 2. This has proved to be very successful in improving mental maths strategies and children will also have the opportunity to attend weekly marking sessions where strategies are discussed for reasoning and problem solving.

Our topic for the first half term 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 web development - linked to our Earth and Space topic and Safer Internet Day in February - and then programming. In PE, the children will be doing circuit training, team games and outdoor adventure. It is an expectation that PE kit is worn for all PE lessons. 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 this term is 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 this 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.

Our approach to homework has changed since the beginning of the year. Your child should have already received their homework for the first four weeks which is a project linked to our topic on Earth and Space. It is important that this is completed as it supports work in the class. Children who do not return their homework repeatedly will miss their Golden Time and complete their homework then, a system the children are familiar with. Weekly spellings will also be sent home: these are linked to the Year 5-6 spelling patterns and it is vital children learn these to develop their spelling skills. Please also find attached another 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.

The children visit the library once a week, this is their opportunity to change their books and read with an adult. 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. We will acknowledge any reading your child has done with an adult in their reading record, so please return these once a week.

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/>

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 Mowbray 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	