

Curriculum Newsletter Y5

Dear Parents/Carers,

Continuing to work in Year 5 this term 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 Iceton and Mr Robinson.

Within English, we will continue to write a variety of fiction, linking as much as we can to our class topic of the Romans. Our class text will be 'Roman Invasion' by Jim Eldridge. The children will also analyse the features of a range of non-fiction writing and write their own non-chronological reports and explanation text. 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, the children will continue to develop their understanding of decimals, angles and looking at the properties of shapes before half term. After half term, we will explore position and direction as well as converting units of measure. Throughout the term we will also be focussing on problem solving skills, developing logical thinking and working systematically through regular investigations. Schofield and Sims will continue 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 this half term will be the Romans and our enquiry question is 'What was the impact of the Romans in Britain?' This will be followed by two mini topics on South America and The Olympics. Our enquiry question for the South America topic is 'How is South America so diverse?' and for the Olympics topic, it will be 'What makes an ideal Olympic host country?'

The main driver of the first topic is History, looking at when and why the Romans invaded Britain, why the Roman army was so successful, what everyday life was like in Roman Britain and what legacy the Romans left behind. The latter two topics will have a Geography focus and will explore different countries and their human and physical features, including climate zones, imports/exports and population sizes. The children will be studying different countries and practising map skills so it would be great to encourage your child to explore an atlas at home, whether paper or online, to find out about countries' geographical locations, capital cities, flags, bordering countries and oceans.

As well as these main topics, the children will also be covering other areas of the curriculum in discreet lessons. Our Computing this term will focus heavily on coding - using an app called Swift Playgrounds - where the children will learn to develop code and debug incorrect coding. Over the full term in PE, the children will be developing their skills in tag rugby, cricket and football in their weekly PE session with DFE Coaching. RE will involve children looking at Islam and places of worship. In PSHE, the children will participate in weekly circle times focusing on pertinent issues to the children including friendships and online safety. We will also discuss how alcohol, medicines and social media can affect our health and wellbeing.

You can get a flavour of the learning the children have been involved in through our school website, Class Dojo or our school Twitter account, which you can see on the School website.

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 a range of genres with your child as well as asking questions about character and plot developing focusing on the evidence within the text 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	