



COBHAM
Primary School



Year 5 Newsletter

Dear Parents & Children of Year 5,

A huge welcome back to school after what I hope has been a fantastic break. I hope you all had a wonderful rest and are ready for the challenges of Year 5. The Year 5 team include: Mrs O Neil, Mrs Lyons and myself, and we are looking forward to getting to know your children and getting started with the wonderful topics this year, which I know the children will enjoy. They have already told me which areas they would like to improve in this year and I will do my very best to ensure that they achieve their goals and continue to shine!

Widening children's learning

This is an important year for *Class 5* and any work you can do at home to supplement the children's learning at school will be enormously helpful. Please use the curriculum guide to help you understand the exciting experiences your child is telling you about after school.

Curriculum Guide

English

In *English* we will be studying texts such as: *What a Wonderful World*, *War Game*, *Secret Friends*, *The Adventures of Odysseus*, *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* along with a range of picture books, poems and music to inspire the children's writing. The children will be experiencing a range of stimuli to write in a variety of styles and genres, using more complex sentence structures, increasingly advanced vocabulary and punctuation. It is still vitally important that children keep up the reading and learning of their spellings, to complement their writing.

Reading still remains a huge priority in Year 5. The children **must** read daily and I will hear everyone at least once a week. (Any offers of help would be gratefully appreciated!) Please ensure you do the same as the children love reading to someone else. Spellings as normal will be learnt weekly. The children are given them on a Friday and they have a series of activities that assist their understanding and use of the new words. The tasks must all be completed by Thursday and handed in weekly. The spelling test is first thing on Thursday morning!

Maths

In *Mathematics*, we have lots of new concepts to learn and explore within the new curriculum for mathematics. Place value up to and including millions, addition, subtraction rounding, negative numbers, multiplication, division, factors, prime numbers as well as all four written methods. This means that the children's number work needs to be strong, so plenty of help at home learning their tables, doubling and halving numbers up to a 1000, x and ÷ by 10 and 100 would be a great help!

Science

Science is Fun! Fun! Fun! Our topic is Forces and lots of investigative work is involved. We look closely at how PUSH and PULL forces have an affect us and other objects. We will be exploring a range of practical activities to develop the children's understanding further.

History

History in term one will focus on Ancient Greece. The children will be exploring the importance of the Ancient Greeks within History, how the Greeks became famous and all of the different myths and Legends that are famous today! It will be a fantastic term exploring the Ancient Greeks and I know the children are going to love it!

Geography

In Geography we will be exploring and looking at recycling in the world and the impact of this on the environment.

Art

In Art we will be developing our basic skills using a range of different mediums, before embarking on our exploration of 'Ancient Greece'. The children will be using a range of different mediums (including digital cameras, laptops and clay) to create their different pieces of art work! The children will use their learning and stimulus from History to provide a starting point for their different pieces of art work!

Religious Education (RE)

In RE, we will be having lots of discussions and debates to consider different points of views for religion. This is a really interesting unit which the children will love.

French

In French we will carry on with our fun, interactive Tout le Monde programme!

Computing (Previously ICT)

Computing (previously ICT) will be looking how to use digital cameras to create the perfect shot and then editing the photos on the computer.

Physical Education (PE)

PE on Monday's and Thursday's will be Outdoor PE, so please ensure the children have appropriate clothing for the sessions as we will be going outside come rain or shine. During the sessions, the children will be experiencing the expert teaching from our Sports Coaches this year on a range of different skills.

PSHE/SMSC

PSHE and *SMSC* will be looking at our achievements and expectations for the future, honesty, self-belief, getting along and being a good citizen.

Spelling Contract Details

As mentioned above, children are given their Spelling Contract with their spellings on a Friday. They have a series of tasks, which are outlined below, to support the learning of their spellings and are required to be completed before a Thursday morning. These activities do help and support the children's learning of spellings and therefore **must** be completed. The children are given from 8:45am until 9:05am to complete these activities within class; however, if they are not completed within class, they do need to be completed at home. A copy of their spelling contract details is on the inside of their Spelling Contract and will be in your pack of information on the 'Meet and Greet' afternoon.

Homework Details

Each week, the children will be given a piece of homework on a Thursday morning and they will have one whole week to complete the homework tasks. The homework timetable clearly outlines the homework for Year 5 and the children have a copy in their homework books and these will also be given out at the Meet and Greet afternoon. The Thursday homework will alternate between English/Cross Curricular and Maths to consolidate, deepen and extend their learning or revise previously learnt topics.

The children are expected to ensure 100% effort, focus and dedication to their homework for every single piece. The children know that as long as they tackle the homework with 100% effort and 'have a go' then I am happy with their achievements. Repeatedly not completing homework or forgetting to hand it in will result in detention at lunchtimes where it will be completed. Conversely children will be rewarded for their efforts with house points and prizes! Please, also as part of their learning in organisation and self reliance, encourage the children to inform me of problems with homework and I will happily spend time with them again.

Rewards

Good work and behaviour will result in house points, star of the week, top boy and girl, class golden time, table points and weekly certificates in Achiever's assembly. I believe in having a positive approach with the children and will praise them regularly and wherever I can.

E-Safety

www.bbc.co.uk/ownit

You may have seen the recent campaign on TV for the BBC "Own It" website for children aged 9 years - 12 years. This will be predominantly aimed for our children in Year 5 and in Year 6. I wanted to bring your attention to this website again as an excellent source of information and support for your child's life online. The website quotes the following objectives: "Own It brings a child's perspective of online life and the issues it throws up. It covers everything from online privacy and avoiding malware, through to dealing with everyday dilemmas children face online, as well as having fun. Quick links to charities and organisations like Childline, whose phone lines and online chat can provide urgent support should children need it, will also be available."

Belongings:

Please could I ask for any of the children's belongings to be clearly labelled. This is to avoid any belongings being lost unnecessarily. It is such a shame to see valuable clothing go to waste.

Time to discuss any issues

Please see me if you have any queries regarding your child on a Thursday morning when I will be on the Junior Block Door. I would also encourage the children, as a reflection of their age, to come and speak to me themselves. This might be to relieve a worry before going home, or after having discussed it with their parents. I think it is important for the children to start to think for themselves and work out how to solve problems independently if they can. Obviously, any larger issues should be dealt with me directly.

Year 5 is a wonderful year for the children where they really start to become independent in their learning process and take responsibility for their own actions and learning tasks. Please ensure the children are taking responsibility for their homework, belongings and for making sure everything they need for their learning is in school on the days required. We focus a lot on independence in Year 5 and your support with this skill would be wonderful.

As always, your continued encouragement and support is vital to your child's success. If there are any worries or problems please do not hesitate to contact me. I am certain that we will have a fantastic year and I look forward to working with your children during this year!

Kind Regards,

Miss Finelli & Mrs O'Neill