

Dear Parents & Children of Year 5,

Happy New Year and a huge welcome back to school in 2021! Firstly, on behalf of the whole Year 5 team, we would like to say a massive thank you for the wonderful cards, presents and gifts at Christmas - it was very generous and kind. We hope you all had a safe and wonderful break - and are ready for the year ahead! We have lots of fun things to learn and we are sure the children will continue to work as hard as they usually do!

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 this 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: The Ice Trap, Cosmic and Here We Are, along with a range of picture books and animated clips to inspire the children's writing. The children absolutely love reading class texts and I am sure they will continue to produce fantastic pieces of work. We will also be exploring the genre of non-fiction using a cross-curricular theme of space, which we know the children are absolutely going to love. We will be using these texts to stimulate writing in a range of styles, using more complex sentence structures, increasingly advanced vocabulary and punctuation. It is still vitally important that children keep up the personal reading and learning of their spellings.

Reading as always is a priority for all of our children, as it opens up the world to them in so many ways. The email from Mrs Saunders earlier today hopefully demonstrates our whole school focus on this amazing and life enhancing skill. All we are asking of every parent is that you hear your child read EVERY day and share a love of books with them throughout this term. No other homework will be set other than this and spelling contract! We will hopefully see a massive impact upon the children's reading this term.

Spellings as normal will be learnt weekly. The children are given them on a Tuesday and they have a series of activities that assist their understanding and use of the new words. The tasks must all be completed by the following Monday (spelling test day!) when they will take their spelling test.

Maths

In **Maths** we will continue with our four-number operation work including investigations. During Term 3 we will be looking at multiplication, division, fractions and decimals and percentages. The children will work in detail on decimals and how they relate to fractions.

Speed and accuracy in their multiplication tables is vital to their success in maths! So please help the children to brush up on their times table knowledge.

Science

We cannot wait to start the term's **Science** topic focused on Earth and Space. We will explore the main elements of our solar system, comparing the different planets and understanding our relationship with the solar system and galaxy we are part of. It is an excellent topic that we know the children are going to love learning about, one that will cause much excitement and engagement.

Humanities

This term we will explore South America in **Geography**, including the countries, climates, animals and people that live there. This fascinating continent allows us to develop our locational and place knowledge as well as environmental, physical and human geography. We will be deepening this knowledge further in Term 5 when we will explore Brazil. Children will also develop important geographical skills, such as map reading, analysis and presentation of geographical data. We will also use enquiry-based learning to consider how geography is a dynamic subject where thinking and viewpoints change.

History in Term 4 will focus on the Anglo-Saxons. The children will explore the importance of the Anglo-Saxons within History, how the Anglo-Saxons influenced later societies and the different elements of their lives. It will be a fantastic term exploring the Anglo-Saxons and we know the children are going to love it!

DT

In **DT** we are exploring food, a subject we know is very close to the children's hearts! Our topic is 'What could be healthier', in which we explore where our food comes from and what we mean by 'healthy' food. We will explore a traditional recipe for Bolognese sauce and consider how we can adapt it to make it healthier. Children will then cook and compare their own healthy Bolognese recipes (all dietary requirements will be catered for here, and do please let us know asap if there are any updates to what your child can eat before we start this topic).

Religious Education (RE)

RE will continue the study of the religion Islam. The children will be learning about the religion and the culture and comparing it to Christianity.

French

In **French** we will carry on with our new Language Angels scheme which supported some amazing progress last term. This term we will look at La Famille, a unit all about our families. We will continue to cover phonics, pronunciation, grammar and vocabulary knowledge alongside the skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing.

Computing

In **Computing** will be learning about Search Engines. We will learn how to complete efficient and effective searches for academic projects. We will also explore how knowledge is shared via the internet and the critical skills that we need to understand whether what we are reading online is true or not. This includes using search engines to check facts, how URLs can indicate a website's credibility and useful techniques for deciding whether links and information are safe for us to explore. We will use our online knowledge-finding skills to create informative and accurate posters about our science topic, Space.

Physical Education (PE)

Outdoor PE will be on Thursday where we will be developing our skills in a range of team games with the wonderful coach from Premier Sports. We will be learning netball and basketball, which the children were amazing at when we worked with the Cobham Hall coaches and I am sure they will develop their skills brilliantly this term. Please ensure they have a suitable kit for when it is cold! Come rain or shine we do go outside, therefore with our weather being so unreliable, please ensure during these two terms the children have appropriate outdoor clothing and footwear (with a grip) that you don't mind them getting a little muddy.

Swimming this term will be on a Tuesday afternoon. All children must bring a towel, swimming costume/shorts, goggles and a swim hat for long hair. In the cold of January we really advise swimming hats that will keep hair as dry as possible!

PSHE/SMSC

PSHE and **SMSC** will be exploring our Dreams and Goals. We will think about how we want to live, what types of people we want to be and the jobs we hope to do in the future. We will also think about how we can support one another to achieve these goals.

Music

In **Music** we will learn about how the theme of Space has inspired composers and use this to inspire our own composition. We will use tuned and untuned percussion to explore dynamics, timbre, tempo and motifs.

Homework

This term we are asking children to prioritise reading and spelling and will not set additional homework.

As we move further into the academic year, please continue to encourage the children to independently take responsibility for their homework, belongings and for making sure everything they need for their learning is in school on the days required. As always, your continued encouragement and support is vital to your child's success - so thank you. If there are any worries or problems, please do not hesitate to contact us by email. We are certain that we will make 2021 a great one; we look forward to all the new learning experiences and positive challenges that 2021 bring us.

Kind Regards,

The Year 5 team