

Year 5 Spring Term Newsletter

Happy New Year to everyone in Year 5!

It has been wonderful to see all the children back after the Christmas break, and we hope that their amazing levels of hard work and enthusiasm will continue into our new topic this term!

English

We begin this new term continuing to work on our information class project. Last term, across the school we introduced a new approach to teaching and learning in writing. This project-based approach is focused on giving children freedom and choice in their writing and aims to increase enjoyment and self-motivation. Alongside, our class project each pupil has a personal writing journal and is encouraged into school to develop their own.

In Year 5, *Writing for Pleasure* is about helping children see themselves as confident, motivated writers who enjoy expressing their ideas. We focus on giving pupils meaningful reasons to write, real audiences, and time to develop their own pieces, rather than rushing through lots of short tasks. Children are encouraged to draw on rich reading, shared discussions, and teacher modelling to experiment with vocabulary, sentence structures, and different writing styles. They are supported to plan, draft, improve, and publish work they are proud of, while also learning the spelling, punctuation, and grammar skills needed to make their writing clear and effective. Our aim is for children to feel excited about writing, take ownership of their ideas, and develop the stamina and confidence needed for upper Key Stage 2 and beyond.

In reading lessons, we will explore a variety of texts linked to our topic. Reading greatly supports our children's writing, so we will continue to have daily reading lessons. These sessions will not only teach reading skills but also help identify words and phrases that can inspire our own writing. Regular reading of a range of texts at home will continue to support learning in this area, so please make sure you encourage your child to read as much as possible. Children are expected to read at home at least three times per week, which then counts towards each class's reading scores! This reading could include newspapers, magazines, annuals, and manuals.

We will also continue to explore a range of class novels and visiting the library regularly.

Head Teacher: Mrs Ellie Eames

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Maths

This term, the children will develop their skills in many aspects of Primary Mathematics, including further practice with added and subtracting fractions, written methods for multiplication and division and exploring decimals and percentages. You can continue to support your child by engaging them in everyday mathematical situations, including telling the time, handling money, and reading measures. We also encourage you to support your child's knowledge of times tables and make use of Times Table Rock Stars to improve their speed and accuracy in recalling them.

Science

This term, we will investigate the properties of different materials before moving on to learning about animals, including humans. The children will study the stages of human development, from infancy to old age, and examine different life cycles in the animal kingdom.

History

This term, the children will be learning all about the 'Anglo Saxons and Vikings'. This always proves to be an interesting topic for the children and allows lots of opportunities for them to learn about history in a fun way. The topic will start with learning lots of historical facts about the settlers and investigating life in Britain 1600 years ago.

RE and PSHE/SRE

This term, we will explore the importance of stories in the Sikh religion. Closer to Easter, the children will investigate the Christian story behind Easter celebrations. As part of our PSHE lessons this term, the children will be reflecting on keeping healthy and managing our wellbeing both online and in person. In the second half of the term, we will explore safety and the changing body, which includes our puberty topic.

Key Messages

Children take part in two PE sessions per week. Please ensure your child comes to school in a full PE kit on these days, consisting of jogging bottoms and a school jumper/cardigan. As the weather turns colder, please ensure your child wears suitable PE clothing for outdoor sessions in chilly conditions. Earrings must be removed for PE lessons, and long hair should be tied back.

Please let us know if you have any further questions or queries.

Kind regards,

Miss Baxter, Mrs Marshall, Mr Sparks

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