

# Year 5 Newsletter

**Autumn Term 2019**

**Issue 1**

Welcome to Year 5, we are looking forward to a positive and successful year ahead.

## English

During the first half of term we will be focusing on a famous playwright: William Shakespeare. We will study 'Romeo & Juliet' in detail and will be encouraging the children to become more familiar with more of his plays.



The children will analyse the features of a good play script as well as identifying literary techniques in poems and stories. They will use the skills developed to write their own play scripts and stories in the style of the authors studied.

Later in the term, children will also read 'The Midnight Fox' by Betsy Byers and their English work will be based around this text.



Throughout the year the grammar lessons will be incorporated into weekly English sessions as well as having dedicated sessions of their own. These lessons will develop their understanding of the rules of grammar, punctuation and spelling. They will be encouraged to proof-read and edit their own writing for clarity and accuracy.

## Maths

In line with the new National

Curriculum we will cover:

- Place value, partitioning and calculating;
- Securing number facts, understanding shape;
- Handling data and measures;
- Estimation, measuring and understanding shape;
- Securing number facts, relationships and properties of numbers;
- Fractions, decimals and percentages;
- Geometry- recognising and measuring angles; using a compass.
- Problem solving and reasoning questions across all operations and areas.



During maths lessons the children will develop their mental strategies and written methods for all four number operations.

Times tables are essential for all areas of the Maths curriculum, therefore we expect the children to know all their tables. Times tables will be looked at in class but please continue to encourage the children to practice these at home.

## Science

The topic for this term will be 'Properties and Changes of Materials'. We will compare and classify materials on the basis of their properties, including



hardness, solubility, transparency and conductivity. We will also use knowledge of solids, liquids and gases to decide how mixtures may be separated, including evaporating. Finally, we will look at reversible and irreversible changes of different materials.

### Other Subjects

This term's **History Topic** is 'The Romans'. The children will learn about the Roman Empire as well as the Roman way of life. To enhance their understanding, we will be visiting Fishbourne Palace; a Roman Palace situated in Chichester, West Sussex on Wednesday 20th November.

In **D.T.** the children will be designing and creating their cross stitch Christmas cards.

This half-term **Computing** and **Art** will all be based on our Roman topic. We will be creating Roman mosaics through both collage and the computer programme Inkscape. This will build on their Inkscape skills developed last year. Later in the term, the children will be developing their programming skills and will use Scratch to create an interactive picture. We are fortunate to have our IT specialist to help us with these projects. In **music**, the children will be exploring sound colours where they think about how music makes them feel as well as creating some music of their own.



This half-term, **R.E** we will be looking at Hinduism. The second half of the term will involve the study of Christianity. **PSHE** will be based on the school values and developing the children's understanding of these.

In **Outdoor PE** the children will be developing their skills in football or tag rugby. The focus for **indoor PE** is gymnastics and playing

badminton.

PE kits are needed in school every day. Please ensure that all clothing is clearly labelled.

In **French** this term will be looking at packed lunch food items and musical instruments. They will also be reinforcing existing vocabulary including numbers 1-100 and focusing on telling the time.

### General Information

We recommend that children bring their own classroom equipment to school e.g. a blue handwriting pen (not biro), ruler, rubber, and pencil. The children often need to stick work into their learning journals, therefore they need to bring a glue stick to school. We would also be grateful if each child could bring in a box of tissues for the term ahead.

### Homework

Instead of regular Maths and English homework, we will be continuing the new approach of Home Learning Tasks.

These tasks will be designed to support the children in the securing of their learning and may take a range of forms, including open-ended investigations, preparatory research work or 'test-yourself' activities. We will also be making a greater use of online resources, particularly in maths and spelling.

These tasks will be given out on a Thursday and (unless told otherwise) are due back by the following Tuesday.

Please encourage your child to complete their Home Learning tasks and hand their work in on time. Where answers (for self-checking) have been provided, please support your children in using them appropriately.

Many thanks

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