

Year 5 Parents' Information

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year 5, we hope you had an enjoyable summer. Please find below an outline of this half terms curriculum.

Reading

Children must have a suitable reading book in school every day. We have a selection in school but if they have books that they are enjoying at home then they are able to bring them in too. Every week the children will read with an adult. We do not see reading as homework per se but would like to promote it as a leisure activity of approximately 15-30 minutes daily. We have asked the children to record this in their reading record. We have provided them with a book mark of different styles of reading comprehension questions, asking one or two of these will to help them develop their understanding of the book.

Homework

Every week we will send home a set of spellings. We are working on spelling which revise the pupils' phonics, later in the year we will be setting the words from the current National Curriculum. They are the expected words that the pupils should know before the end of year 6, so we have plenty of time for them to know them. Spellings will be set according to the needs of groups of pupils; please bear with us while we get to know the children. A piece of work relating to a range of subjects will be set weekly. This may include research for topic, collecting materials and ideas, a piece linked to RE every half term. Maths will continue to be set on the MyMaths website. Please see your class teacher if your child needs to know their login details. Homework will be set on Fridays and will be expected to be returned on the following Thursday.

Swimming

Until February half term the children will attend swimming lessons at Southgate pool. Dates for the 15-week program are already in the calendar dates. Children will need one piece swim suits for girls and trunks for boys, long hair needs to use a swimming hat. Goggles can be worn but not without written permission from yourselves.

Curriculum

English will focus on the quality of writing. Grammar, spelling and punctuation feature more prominently. Lessons to practise these skills will be incorporated into longer writing pieces and expected in every piece of writing, regardless of the subject. Handwriting and presentation will be practised and all written work must be to the highest standard - with the exception of note taking.

Maths continues to build skills and apply them in a broader context. Time will be given to practise times tables on a regular basis. We would also encourage you to practise them at home. Please see calculations policy on how strategies are taught.

Science will continue to be practical and each lesson should incorporate an investigation skill. More detailed explanations and applying science knowledge in unfamiliar contexts will be introduced. This year our teachers will be continuing to apply science project work such as "All is One" and "Think, do, talk science".

Computing continues to build on the programs that the children were using last year. Scratch is the first topic and we will be using the programming language to make games. Internet safety is still important and will be taught each half term. The children do have email accounts and can be encouraged to use these for communication. Touch typing is another important skill and whilst it will be practised in lessons it would be beneficial for all pupils to practice at home. We use the BBC dance mat typing - <https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/articles/z3c6tfr>

We are beginning with 'Theatre and Roald Dahl' as our first topic. We are planning on taking the children to visit the show Matilda. The date for this will be confirmed as soon as possible. There are lots of exciting lessons and opportunities for writing, art, design, theatre craft and script writing from this book. We are intending on following this with Space and using an online telescope. Our other topics will be notified in more detail $\frac{1}{2}$ termly.

PE kits must be in school and contain shorts, t' shirt, socks and trainers or plimsolls. Jogging bottoms can be worn in colder weather. PE days for Year 5 are Mondays and Thursdays (Mondays and Wednesdays from February half term). Please ensure that the pupils are not wearing earrings or watches on those days.

Trips and visits

Visits for trips will be notified in the usual way. We are mindful of costs and where ever possible free venues and public transport will be used. Pupils' safety and enjoyment are important and parent volunteers will be needed. Whenever the number of adult volunteers exceeds the number of spaces available then a draw will take place. We also know that some trips will be more popular than others but would urge you to consider that for the pupils all visits for their learning are important and without parents we will not be able to take them.

We hope you find this information useful. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to speak to us.

Mrs Warrington Miss Redmond