



Friday 8th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Year 5 - We hope you had a lovely and relaxing summer holiday! Outlined below are expectations for Year 5 and overviews of topics that we will cover during the Autumn term. We will be hosting a 'Coffee Morning', where we will explain more about the year ahead and be able to discuss any questions from parents about the curriculum. The date for this will be Thursday 14th September at 9:15am..

**Homework** - Each week, children will be expected to practise their spellings and times tables to support their in-school learning. Children will be given 10 spellings to learn and will be tested weekly on a Friday. Your child will be given a purple homework book to practise in, which will also contain some helpful strategies for learning spellings. Please note, there is no requirement to hand these in. We would also like children to spend 30 minutes a week on either TT Rockstars or Mathletics to practise their times table recall up to 12 x 12.

**Reading** - This should be undertaken daily and recorded in their yellow reading journals. Books can be borrowed from school or brought in from home. Reading journals will be monitored weekly by your child's class teacher or TA. In Year 5, we expect a minimum of 3 entries per week.

**Phones**- Children must hand in their phones at the start of every day and collect it from the box at the end. Each class has their own phone box; phones will be stored in a locked cupboard during the school day as phones are not permitted during the school day. Please note, this also applies to other smart devices (e.g. smart watches).

**Sensible Pencil cases**- In Years 3-6, children need to bring their own pencil cases (which must be able to fit in their trays) with equipment to use every day at school. Essential equipment for daily work includes: HB writing pencils, felt tips (sharpies are not appropriate), a small sharpener, a rubber, a 30cm ruler, colouring pencils, an uncoloured glue stick. Please note that parents and carers are responsible for replenishing pencil cases as KS2 class teachers are not provided with extra equipment to do this - glue sticks are particularly scarce and used in every lesson. If you have any concerns about providing these resources, please email the office.

### Curriculum

**Maths** - In Maths this term, we will be focusing on the children's understanding of number, place value and the formal methods for addition and subtraction. In our arithmetic lessons, we will continue to revise the formal methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division to boost children's mathematical fluency.

**English** - We will start the term by exploring our new class reader: **Cosmic** and the key characters, building descriptions and inferring character's thoughts, feelings and motives from their actions. We will continue to use 'Talk for Writing' as our method to deliver our English lessons. The grammar objectives we will be focussing on are: adjectives, nouns, verbs and adverbs, whilst spelling will focus on rules linked to the Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 statutory spelling lists.

**Topic** - Our topic for the Autumn term is 'The Geography of Greece' moving onto 'Ancient Greece'. We will be using our history and geography skills to investigate: Where in the world Greece is. What is Greece famous for? The food and culture of Greece. Comparing Greece with the UK.

**Science** - Our topic for this term is **Earth and Space**, followed by **Forces** in Autumn 2. We will be learning the eight planets as well as understanding how we orbit the sun. In addition, we will be planning different types of scientific enquiries to answer questions and investigate the properties of materials in class.

**RE-** We will be following the Croydon RE curriculum (SACREA). This term we will be learning about pilgrimages.

**PE** - The children will have PE on **Tuesday** and **Fridays**. Children need to attend school in appropriate PE kits on these days as we will not be changing in the classrooms. Please note that PE will go ahead even in light rain.

**Computing-** The focus for this half-term will be **E-safety** and '**Coding**'. Children will be using programmes on Purple Mash and Scratch to fuse geometry and art; create their own geometric patterns and tessellations, explore patterns and use repetition to draw more complex figures.

This year, we will be using ClassDojo to communicate any class notices (such as school trip information and class news) and pictures. ClassDojo also has a messaging feature for teacher-parent communications so please make sure you have signed up..

Yours sincerely,

Miss Gaston, Mr Jagger and the Year 5 team.