



St. Mary's C.E. School, Putney

**Year 5 Half Termly Letter to Parents**

**Autumn 1, September 2018**

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you and your children have enjoyed a restful summer holiday and are ready to face the first term in Year 5. During this term, we will be establishing the rules and routines that will pave the way for a successful year. I have high expectations and children in Year 5 will be expected to show increased independence and maturity in the way they approach their learning. The following will explain routines in Year 5, and the topics we will be covering this half term.

**Reading**

**Guided Reading** - This will happen once a week and your child will be part of a reading group. The group will read and discuss a book and complete focused learning tasks based around the text.

**Independent Reading** - Throughout each day there are independent silent reading sessions where children will read a book of their choice. In Year 5 children are expected to make their own choices about the material they read based on interest and ability. Children are also expected to read at home every night for at least 15 minutes. It is their responsibility to return finished reading books to the appropriate place on the bookshelf and select another book.

**Home Learning**

(Maths and English Home Learning should be done in Maths or English homework books, or on sheets and neatly stuck in where appropriate)  
There may occasionally be an additional piece of topic-based work to reinforce the work done in class as appropriate.

**Maths:** Set on Friday to be handed in on Wednesday

**English:** Set on Friday to be handed in on Wednesday

**Spellings:** Word lists given at the start of the term. Tested on Friday

**Reading:** Daily for at least 15 minutes each evening

**Times Tables:** Tested on Friday

**Home learning will not be set during holidays**

Here is an outline of the topics we will be covering within each subject area:

**English:** In English we will be following the 'Power of Reading' scheme which uses a text-centered approach to teaching reading and writing. Our text, 'The Adventures of Odysseus' by Hugh Lupton and Daniel Morden, ties in well with our IPC topic. We will be discussing Myths and Legends through a range of reading and writing activities. We use the Rising Stars Grammar Series alongside the Power of Reading to tackle some of the fundamentals and building blocks of sentence structure.

**Maths:** In Maths lessons we will be using the Abacus scheme of work covering a range of maths skills including - Number and place value, written addition and subtraction, mental addition and subtraction, decimals, percentages and their equivalence to fractions, measurement and mental multiplication and division.

**French:** We welcome Madame Goalen who will be teaching French on a Wednesday afternoon.

**ICT:** General skills, such as file management, touch typing and e-safety will be taught alongside our IPC topic. We will also introduce the children to coding with Python.

**RE:** We will be learning about Sikhism. We will learn about Sikh beliefs, rituals and religious festivals. As the unit progresses, the children will be encouraged to find similarities to their own religions and religions that have studied in previous years. At the end of our unit, we hope to visit the South London Gurdwara to help put the learning into context.

**ART:** Mrs Forsyth, will continue to provide specialist teaching of Art lessons. Across the school we will be developing our drawing skills this half term. Everyone will have the opportunity to create the templates for Christmas cards and mugs in time for half-term. Year 5 will use their sketch-books from the start of the Autumn Term and we will include portraits from art history throughout the year. Year 5 will draw different faces based on Greek art.

**MUSIC:** Mrs Le Provost will continue to provide specialist teaching of Music. In Year 5 we will be working in groups to create a composition based on a Greek myth, to link in with their class topic on classical

civilisations. We will learn about how music can convey different moods and characterisations and in particular focus on what makes a good chorus, based on how the role of a chorus has evolved through Greek theatre. The resulting composition will tell the story using a sequence of scenes, which will be recorded so that we can listen back to it and evaluate our work.

**PSHE:** We will follow the Jigsaw scheme of work. Our first topic Being Me in My World, discusses British values and our rights and responsibilities as citizens. We will discuss how our choices and behaviour have an impact on others and our society. The children will also attend the Wandsworth Junior Citizens workshop on 9 October, which provides them with hands-on activities about safety.

**PE:** Year 5 will be participating in PE lessons on a Monday with Miss McCrone and Mr Naughton on a Thursday. This term they shall be covering all aspects of Netball play; Sending and receiving a ball in a variety of ways, fully understanding their role and position on court, footwork/distance rules and introducing tactics to prep them for competitive play. Also allowing all children to learn specific shooting techniques suited their style and game play.

The children shall also be having bi-weekly yoga lessons with Miss McCrone on a Tuesday to explore movement, focus, strengthen core muscles understanding how the body functions through movement and discussion and also release any anxieties and allow time for relaxation of the mind and body.

Please ensure your children have a full PE kit, clearly labeled on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. We will endeavor to always go outside for lessons, children need to have the appropriate kit for the weather. Children should come to school wearing their uniform and will get changed into their P.E. kit for the lesson.

**TOPIC:**

Our first IPC unit, The Great, The Bold and The Brave, is a history unit that builds on the children's previous learning about ancient civilisations. During this unit we take a closer look at Ancient Greece and Rome. We'll explore political systems from Greek city-states to the Roman impact on our society today. On 28<sup>th</sup> September we will visit the British Museum to see the Parthenon Marbles and attend a workshop about Ancient Greece.

We look forward to an exciting and busy year, working in an environment where the children can develop increased confidence and independence.

Do not hesitate to contact me through the PACT system or after school if you have any queries or concerns. If you prefer, you may also speak with Miss Overton who will be working with me this year.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Courtney Rinaldi