



St. Mary's C.E. School, Putney
Autumn 2, Year 5
November 2016

Dear Parents / Carers,

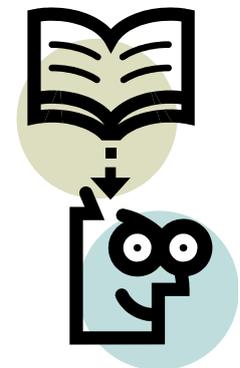
Welcome back! Now that we have all had a chance to settle in and are familiar with the rules and routines of Year 5, the children and I will be working hard this half term to make solid progress in all areas of learning. I am pleased with the way in which Year 5 are applying themselves and rely on your continued support to ensure that we do not lose momentum in the run up to Christmas. Below is another reminder of the class routines, as well as an outline of the curriculum areas covered this half term.

A typical day

am- Assembly, Literacy, Numeracy, Handwriting and Guided Reading.
pm- Topic Work - RE, Geography, Science, PE, ICT, PSHE, Art/Design, Music and French.

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 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.



HOMEWORK

(Maths and English homework should be done in Maths or English homework books, or on sheets and stuck in where appropriate, the emphasis being on neatness!)

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: Tested on Monday.

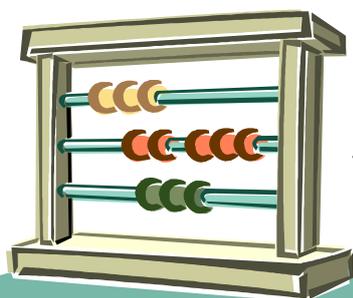
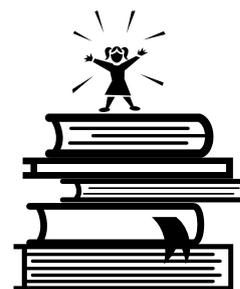
Reading: Daily for at least 15 minutes each evening.

Times Tables: Tested on Monday.

Please ensure P.A.C.T. books are handed in every morning.

Here is an outline of the topics covered in each subject area:

English: In English we will be following the 'Power of Reading' project, which uses a text-centered approach to teaching reading and writing. We will be studying our new class text, 'Clockwork' by Philip Pullman. We will be looking at the narrative structure of the book and the links between different storylines. We will also be creating a range of text types, including playscripts, poetry and explanation texts. These tasks will incorporate writing skills such as accurate use of punctuation, sentence types, verb forms and descriptive language, supported by the National Curriculum and our 'Collins' Grammar scheme.



Maths: In Maths lessons we will be following the Abacus scheme of work covering a range of maths skills including - multiplication and division strategies, fractions, decimals and percentages, problem solving and properties of shapes. Independently, children should be working to ensure that they know all multiplication facts to 12.

RE: Christmas - In the lead up to Christmas we will be exploring how art and music convey the Christmas story and message.

ART: In Year 5 this term, we will be looking at 'mask making' for the theatre to extend last terms portrait work into this terms **3D designer** and painting topics. First we will explore the ways in which masks can bring a character to life, followed by experimenting with different methods of 3D modelling materials. We would like students to bring in empty cereal boxes for the card to be used as a base for their mask, and any other suitable recyclable materials.

Music: This half term we will be using the well-known song 'Dem Bones' to explore ways to use actions, dynamics and different sound-makers to enhance musical expression. We will then create a melodic ostinato (repeated rhythm) using tuned instruments and build up a layer of sounds to perform as an accompaniment to the song, which we will then record and later evaluate. We will also be rehearsing songs for our Christmas Nativity service.

PE: Year 5 will be participating in PE lessons on a Monday, with Mr Ellis and have a second lesson on a Wednesday. This half term's activities will be football and hockey. Pupils will focus on passing into space, moving to receive and shooting on the move. In addition the class will practice dribbling and passing, to maintain possession and beat defenders, in different overloaded situations. Skills will be applied and knowledge of rules developed through competitive games.

(Please ensure your children have a clearly-labeled full PE kit in school on Mondays and Wednesdays. St Mary's tracksuits may be worn or plain grey or black jogging bottoms.)

Topic Work

Our first topic this half term is 'Look Hear!' in which we will be exploring sound and light through the following subject areas:

In Science, we'll be finding out:

- How we hear sounds and see light
- How the human ear and eye works
- How sound and light waves travel
- How a string telephone works
- How we can change the pitch of sounds
- About echoes and acoustics

In Technology, we'll be finding out:

- How to make an elastic-band guitar

In Music, we'll be finding out:

- How to play our homemade instruments

In International, we'll be finding out:

- About sound and light pollution

Our second topic this half term will be '3D Designers' and will be an opportunity for children to study the way architects use computers to design buildings. We will be covering the following areas:

In ICT we'll be finding out:

- How to create and manipulate 3D models using a range of tools
- How people use ICT professionally in their jobs and for leisure purposes
- How to conduct a successful internet search and be discerning in evaluating whether the results are reliable
- How to use and combine a variety of software to present data and information, with an awareness of the intended audience
- How to design and write computer programs using sequences of instructions and variables, inputs and outputs.

In International we'll be finding out:

- What our home countries look like from space and how to use technology to view the towns and streets where we live
- How to use digital technology to find out more about other countries and make comparisons with our own

Thank you for your ongoing support. I look forward to another successful half term and a super Christmas performance on Wednesday, 14th December! We are also looking forward to our trip to Sayers Croft on Monday, 21st November and the Christmas Panto on Thursday, 1st December - more details to follow...

Please do not hesitate to contact me through the PACT book, or arrange a time to meet before or after school, if you have any queries or concerns.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. C. Rinaldi