



St. Mary's C.E. School, Putney
Year 5 Half Termly Letter to Parents
Autumn 2, November 2017

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.

The highlight of this term is our overnight school journey to Sayer's Croft on 20th-21st November. This is a great opportunity for the children to develop their independence, resilience and enjoy team building activities.

Below is another reminder of the class routines, as well as an outline of the curriculum areas covered 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. Please encourage your children to speak with me if they are struggling to find a suitable book.

Home Learning

(Maths and English homework 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 Wednesday to be handed in on Tuesdays.

English: Set on Wednesday to be handed in on Tuesdays.

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 Monday

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. This term we will be studying, '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 poetry, recounts and explanation texts. These tasks will incorporate grammar and writing skills such as accurate use of punctuation, sentence types, verb forms and descriptive language.



Maths: In Maths lessons we will be following the Abacus scheme of work covering a range of Maths skills including - multiplication and division strategies, factors and multiples, 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.

French: Miss Cox will provide specialist French teaching. The children will continue to develop their basic French vocabulary and extend their knowledge of direction and places.

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

ART: Mrs Forsyth will provide specialist teaching of Art lessons. This half term we will be painting and using colour to create images of the Greek and early Roman myths and legends

MUSIC: This half term we will be completing our project on writing choruses for a Greek myth then move onto linking with their class topic Look Hear! by looking at instruments and how they produce sound as well as learning how to enhance musical expression and explore ways in which we can use actions, dynamics and different sound-makers in order to do this. 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. We will also be rehearsing songs for our Christmas Nativity.

PSHE: We will follow the Jigsaw scheme of work. Our new topic, Celebrating Differences, looks at what makes us unique, dealing with difference and conflicts and our role when witnessing bullying. This ties in nicely with our anti-bullying theme of the year All Different! All Equal!

PE: Year 5 will be participating in PE lessons on a Monday, with Mr Ellis and on a Thursday with Miss Rinaldi. This half term's activity will be football. Pupils will focus on dribbling to beat opponents and passing to maintain possession. In addition the class will practice passing to space, moving to receive and marking an opponent. Skills will be applied and knowledge of rules developed through competitive games.

Please ensure your children have a full PE kit, clearly labeled. 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 topic this half term is 'Look Hear!' in which we will be exploring sound and light through Science, Technology and Geography. In Science we will explore how we hear sounds and see light, how the human ear and eye work, how light and sound travel, how we can change pitch of sounds. In technology will make a string telephone and a guitar learn how they works. In Geography will learn what sound and light pollution are, their impact on us and what we can do to minimize our footprints.

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 Khatib who will be working with me this year.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Courtney Rinaldi