



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

**Year 5 Half Termly Letter to Parents**

**Autumn 2, October 2018**

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 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> 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 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

<b>Spellings:</b> Word lists given at the start of the term. Tested on Friday
<b>Reading:</b> Daily for at least 15 minutes each evening
<b>Times Tables:</b> Tested on Friday
<b>Home learning will not be set during holidays</b>

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:** Madame Goalen will provide specialist French teaching. The children will continue to develop their basic French vocabulary and extend their knowledge of the days of the week.

**Computing:** This term we will be using the IPC digit unit: 3D Designers to understand how technology is used in the design process. In addition we will continue to incorporate general skills, such as file management, touch typing and e-safety into our usual work.

**RE:** We will finish up our Sikhism unit in the next few weeks. In the lead up to Christmas we will be exploring how art and music convey the Christmas story and message. On 4<sup>th</sup> December, we will be travelling to the National Gallery to see how the nativity is portrayed in art.

**ART:** Mrs Forsyth will provide specialist teaching of Art lessons.

**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 differences and conflicts and our role when witnessing bullying.

**PE:** Y5 will spend their Monday morning lesson working with Ms McCrone this term learning the key skills for playing hockey. We will cover dribbling, passing, control and possession techniques which shall filtrate into mini game situations, both possession based and match based. There shall be an element of team tactics and match play techniques taught.

On Thursday's Y5 shall start basketball with Mr Naughton. Here they will learn to pass, send and receive effectively, movement in and out of space, marking techniques and then small sided games which will then grow into competitive matches. Within these sessions, the children will be encouraged to think tactically about their game play. They will finish the term with two sessions of tag rugby.

On alternate Tuesday mornings Y5 will take part in Yoga with Ms McCrone. These sessions are designed to draw inner focus, confidence, both physical and mental strength as well as teaching the children tools to cope with anxiety in their busy lives. The sessions shall encourage individual and pair work to build friendships and fun.

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 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 work. In Geography will learn what sound and light pollution are, their impact on us and what we can do to minimize our footprints.

It is sure to be an exciting and action-packed term and I thank you in advance for the incredible support given to our students. It truly makes a difference!

Please 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, our class learning assistant.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Courtney Rinaldi