



Year 5 Half Termly Letter to Parents

Spring 1, January 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back and Happy New Year! The students made great progress last term and I cannot wait to see what they can achieve this term. We have an action packed term ahead. I'm sure you are well aware of the usual class routines and homework schedules, but here is a reminder. As we are half way through Year 5, I feel it is your children's responsibility to remember to bring the correct kit to school for their lessons. However at times, a gentle reminder of this may be necessary.

Dates for your diary:

9th January - Trip to Pizza Express to launch our science unit, Bake It!

24th January - Victorian Day

28th January - Visit to the Houses of Parliament

Reading

Guided Reading - This will happen 1-2 times per 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. The children know that any assigned work not completed during class time must be completed at home.

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 home learning books, or on sheets and neatly stuck in where appropriate.

There may occasionally be a topic-based work to reinforce the work done in class.

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

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

Spellings: Word lists are given at the start of the term - tested on Friday.

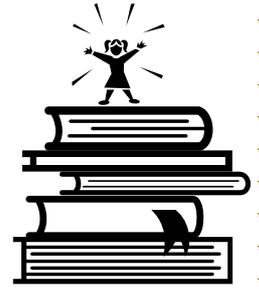
Reading: Daily for at least 15 minutes each evening.

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 follow the 'Power of Reading' scheme and we will be studying 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty. At the start of this unit we hold a Victorian Day to help the children put the novel into a historical context. We will be exploring a number of the book's characters by analysing and annotating the text, as well as our own drawings. We will also be demonstrating our understanding of their thoughts and feelings through writing letters and diary entries in role as a character. This will be supported by a range of drama activities. These tasks will incorporate writing skills such as accurate use of punctuation, sentence types, verb forms and descriptive language.



Maths: In Maths we follow the Power Maths scheme of work which uses the Mastery Approach to teaching. During this half term we will focus on perimeter and area; multiplication and division; and fractions. We will be working to improve reasoning skills and procedural fluency in order to consolidate skills.

Independently, children should be working to ensure that they know all multiplication and related division facts to 12.

French: Madame Bais will provide specialist French teaching. The children will be continuing to build on their vocabulary, as well as, speaking and listening skills.

Computing: Throughout the term we will continue to reinforce general skills, such as file management, touch typing and e-safety. In addition, this term we will be introducing the children to the basics of programming.

RE: We will explore how the Christian message has survived 2000 years. We will discuss the importance aspects of the message and its relevance to our current lives. Towards the end of the half term we will discuss how fame and the Christian faith can work together.

ART: Mrs Adams will continue to art on Mondays.

Music: This half term will be listening to a wide variety of music by well-known classical composers to explore the human life cycle. The music and its range of moods, styles and genres will inspire us to sing, perform and compose using new techniques and structures. We will be singing in three parts, developing our knowledge of rhythm and staff notation and accompanying a song with tuned and untuned instruments.

PSHE: We will use the Jigsaw's scheme, 'Dreams and Goals.' We will look at our aspirations and goals for the future. We will try to understand how to handle and learn from both success and failure. We will also learn to appreciate how our dreams and goals differ from one another and respect these differences.

PE: Year 5's half term's activity will be gymnastics. Pupils will focus on performing a variety of rolls and jumps in unison and cannon. In addition the class will practice balances on different levels, taking weight on their hands and use rolls learnt to link balances. Skills will be used to create individual and paired sequences in space.

Please ensure your children have a full PE kit, clearly labelled. 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.

Science: Our topic, 'Bake It!', is a science-based topic, which involves a practical study of materials by looking at the scientific processes behind baking - specifically bread. To kick off this unit, we will visit Pizza Express for some pizza making fun. During this topic, we will be covering the following curriculum areas:

I would like to thank all of you for the continued support you provide by reading with your children, helping them with their spellings, home learning, baking cakes to raise money for our class needs and all the other little things that you do to ensure your child's time in year 5 is as successful as possible. Keep up the good work!

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.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Courtney Rinaldi