



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

Year 5 Half Termly Letter to Parents

Summer 1, April 2018

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back, I hope you have all enjoyed a break from school and are ready to tackle our final term in Year 5. We have a busy and exciting term ahead of us. This term I will be raising the bar in terms of expectations, in both academics and behaviour, I expect to be impressed!

For your information, Y5 optional SATs in English and Maths will be taking place during the week beginning 14th May. There is nothing the children need to do to prepare for these tests, except to have a good night's rest and a healthy breakfast.

I'm sure you are well aware of the usual class routines and homework schedules, but here is a reminder. As we approach Year 6, 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!

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 Wednesdays.

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

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.

English: In English we follow the 'Power of Reading' scheme and we will finish our reading of the book 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty. We will use writing in role to show our understanding of character's feelings. Following our completion of 'Street Child,' we will be learning about and writing different literary genres. The children will explore biographies, autobiographies, informational reports and persuasive writing. These tasks will incorporate writing skills such as accurate use of punctuation, sentence types, verb forms and descriptive language, supported by the National Curriculum.



Maths: In Maths lessons we will be using the Abacus scheme of work covering a range of Maths skills including - mental addition and subtraction, subtracting two place decimals by counting on, solving problems involving amounts of money, multiplication of larger numbers, exploring 2D and 3D shapes and converting improper fractions to mixed numbers.

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

French: Madame Cox will provide specialist French teaching. The children will be continuing to build on their vocabulary, learning about food and developing questioning skills.

Computing: Throughout the term we will continue to reinforce general skills, such as file management, touch typing and e-safety. In addition, we continue working on our IPC technology-specific topic, 3D Designers. In this unit we will learn how architects use technology to design buildings.

RE: We will finish up our learning about Sikhism and we will visit to the South London Gurdwara (date TBA). Our RE topic this half term is titled 'Do Fame and Christianity Go Together.' In this unit we will learn about the qualities that Christians hold and live by. We will also explore how we can be 'famous' without compromising our Christian values.

ART: As usual the programme in Art Room for the first half of the summer term has been set by the art team from FOSMS and this year we will be creating work on the exciting theme of 'Cool Britannia!' A number of children have researched the theme over the Easter break; others are starting this week- simple ideas often work best. The FOSMS team are organising a fantastic exhibition of the work plus workshops and refreshments on 19 May so please put the date in your diary. The theme allocated to Year 5 is 'British Music'.

Music: This half term we will be 'At the movies'. We will explore music ranging from 1920s animated films to present day movies, learning the techniques for creating soundtracks and film scores to compose our own movie music. We will use storyboards, explore sound effects and discover the effect music has on the movies as well as learn how to notate sound effects and use cue scores.

PSHE: We will use the Jigsaw's scheme, in our new unit, 'Relationship,' we will explore feelings about ourselves and others around us, and how to stay true to our own values and beliefs when dealing with others.

PE: Year 5 will be participating in PE lessons on a Monday and Thursday. This half term's activity will be cricket. Pupils will focus on developing their forward defensive shot, the straight drive and using these shots to strike a ball into space. In addition the class will practice bowling, stopping balls reaching targets and selecting the appropriate throw in different situations. Skills will be applied and knowledge of rules developed through competitive games.

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.

Topic: We will finish up our mission to Mars topic and then we will be tackling our new topic, 'Weather and Climate', beginning with a rescue mission to Antarctica. At the completion of this topic, the students will present a Weather and Climate Fair to the parents, I will inform you of the date later on in the term.

Throughout this topic we will be addressing the following foundation subjects:

In Geography, we'll be:

- Finding out about weather and climate in different parts of the world
- Finding out how human activities in different regions are affected by weather and climate
- Finding out how clouds are formed
- Finding out about the water cycle
- Finding out about some extreme weather patterns

In Science, we'll be:

- Conducting experiments to simulate weather types
- Making predictions, observations, and drawing conclusions
- Finding out about ways we can measure and record weather

In Technology, we'll be:

- Designing and building our own weather station instruments
- Finding out about the different types of modern technology used to measure weather

In International, we'll be:

- Finding out about climate and environmental problems in our own country
- Finding out what simple things we can do to help improve our environment

Once again, thank you for the support you are providing at home, with reading, homework, spellings, remembering PE kit etc... it really does make a difference! Please do not hesitate

to contact me through the PACT system or before school if you have any queries or concerns.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Courtney Rinaldi