



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

**Year 5 Half Termly Letter to Parents**

**Autumn 2, November 2020**

Dear Parents / Carers,

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 have adapted to the new normal.

Below is reminder of the class routines, as well as an outline of the curriculum areas covered this half term.

**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 a contemporary novel, 'The Boy in the Girl's Bathroom' by Louis Sachar. We will be looking at the narrative structure of the book and relating it to our own experiences. 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 we use the mastery approach to teaching maths. This half term we will be learning how to read and interpret data and statistics. We will draw a variety of graphs and tables and learn how to best present our data. Following that unit, we will move on to multiplication and division, focusing on factors, multiples and multiplying and dividing by multiples of 10. Our final unit will cover area and perimeter.

**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 1<sup>st</sup> December, we will have a live (remote) workshop with The National Gallery scheduled to see how the nativity is portrayed in paintings.

**GEOGRAPHY:** Our new topic is 'Weather and Climate'. In this unit we will be finding out about weather and climate in different parts of the world. We will develop an understanding out how human activities in different regions are affected by weather and climate. We will learn about the water cycle and research extreme weather patterns. We will conduct experiments to simulate weather types. We will link this with our maths topic and find out ways to measure and record weather. In addition, each week we will take a specific geographical fact and work to develop the children's locational knowledge.

**D&T:** Our Geography unit also lends itself to Design and Technology opportunities. We will design and build our own weather station instruments and evaluate their effectiveness.

**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.

**ICT:** We will focus on e-safety in our ICT lessons and introducing the children to our digital learning platform, Microsoft Teams.

**MUSIC:** This half term we will be studying the 'Storm' Interlude from Peter Grimes by Benjamin Britten. This will act as an introduction to opera and also as inspiration to create our own musical motifs and structure them into a piece to perform as an ensemble, using a variety of musical instruments. Music will continue to be taught by our specialist teacher, Mrs. Le Prevost.

**PE:** The children will have two PE lessons each week. PE will be taught outside in the Year 5 playground. Children should come in on Mondays and Tuesdays in their PE kits prepared for any type of weather. On Mondays, they will be playing rugby with our specialist PE coach. On Tuesdays, the children will be playing basketball with Mrs. Rinaldi.

**ART:** Year 5 will be developing their colour mixing and painting skills by creating a piece in response to Hokusai's print - 'The Wave off Kanagawa'. Art will continue to be taught by our specialist teacher, Mrs. Adams.

**FRENCH:** The children will have a 30-minute lesson each Wednesday delivered by Madame Claudine.

**HOME LEARNING:**

Home Learning
<b>Maths:</b> Set on Friday to be handed in on Wednesday (Mathletics)
<b>English:</b> Set on Friday to be handed in remotely 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>

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 ([class2015@st-marys-putney.wandsworth.sch.uk](mailto:class2015@st-marys-putney.wandsworth.sch.uk)) if you have any queries or concerns.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Courtney Rinaldi

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Twitter <https://twitter.com/PutneySMPS>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/PutneySMPS/>