

Newsletter - Spring Term 2020 CLASS 5B and 5G

Happy New Year! Welcome back to a new term. We are looking forward to continuing to work together in order to provide the children with both a happy and productive year.

In our daily English lesson, we will be reading two new novels – *How To Train Your Dragon* by Cressida Cowell and *Coraline* by Neil Gaiman. We will be studying a range of reading comprehension techniques. Alongside our novels, we shall also be studying a range of non-fiction text types, including explanation texts and biographies and autobiographies. We will be improving existing grammatical skills as well as learning new ones. Weekly spellings will be given to the children on Mondays and they will be tested the following Friday.

Within our Maths sessions, we will begin with a short mental arithmetic session before moving on to the main focus. The focus will change each week and will cover areas including number and number systems, shape and space, and handling data. There will be a times tables test two times every week so please continue to encourage your child to use Times Tables Rockstars. The test will be in a written format and the children will be given a time limit to complete it.

Our first topic this term will be the Vikings, focusing on key events in the Viking invasion and settlement of Britain and the everyday life of a Viking. In the second half-term, our topic will have a Science focus and will be Earth and Space, then Forces. The children will learn about the Earth, Sun and Moon and the planets that make up our solar system. The Forces topic will allow more opportunities for the children to carry out investigations and draw conclusions from their findings.

The children will have a weekly R.E. and PSHE lesson, within which they will study two world religions – Christianity and Judaism – as well as looking at a range of issues such as working together, keeping calm, democracy and how we are affected by global issues.

For P.E. it is essential that the children have their labelled P.E. kit in school at all times – dark tracksuit bottoms and jumper, dark shorts, white t-shirt and trainers. 5B and 5G will have PE on Thursdays.

In Computing, our topics will be eSafety and Espresso Coding.

For Art and Design Technology, we will be practising pencil sketching, looking at a range of different techniques then applying these when drawing a range of objects. We will also be exploring the work of Claude Monet and attempting to understand events in his life and how these affected his work. Lastly, we will be attempting to emulate one of his most famous works of art using oil pastels.

In French our topics will be ‘At the Café’ and ‘Planets’.

We would like to take the opportunity to remind you of the correct equipment that your child must have at school at all times. It is essential that your child has his or her own pencil case which must contain a pencil, 30cm ruler, rubber, pencil sharpener and black ink handwriting pen – this can be a black biro however, as we have found that many ink pens were going through the pages of the books. Please ensure that your child's equipment is sensible and will not distract them or others from their work! Please also ensure that your child has the correct uniform and that it is clearly labelled.

It is always helpful if the children can be encouraged to visit the local library to find out additional information about the topics that we are exploring this year.

Concerning homework, the children are expected to read daily at home and to learn their weekly spellings and times tables, using Times Tables Rockstars. The children will also receive SPaG.com homework at various times during the term. Your help and support in these matters will be greatly appreciated.

If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Mr I. Gonzalez and Miss J. Bloomfield