



10th January 2020

Year 5 and 6 Curriculum Newsletter - Spring Term 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you have had an enjoyable break over the festive period and have been able to spend some time together as a family. The spring term has started well and the children have returned rested and ready to learn. This term the children are being taught in slightly different groups for the morning sessions in order to support them to make the best possible progress. Mr Smith has joined us and will teach a small group alongside Mrs Atkin, Mrs Kirby and Miss Wright. Mrs Green continues to provide support for all children but especially those in Year 5.

English

In Year 5 and 6 this term the children will be writing non-chronological reports based on their studies of Coastal Erosion. Throughout this unit of work they will be making notes and gathering information to inform their writing. They will consider aspects of grammar including using formal language, as well as passive and subjunctive voice. The children will continue to use a variety of punctuation to include colons and semicolons as well as making precise choices with their vocabulary. In the second half of the term the children will use a focus text to write a science-fiction story developing their narrative writing skills.

Reading in Year 5 will be focused on a variety of texts and questions types including retrieval, inference and vocabulary based questions. In Year 6 the focus will be on preparing for SATs by using example questions based on a variety of texts, ensuring that they are equipped to undertake the reading paper in May. Children will still have the opportunity to read during daily silent reading sessions and many children will be heard reading individually. Please continue to encourage your child to read regularly at home; it has an immeasurably positive effect on their achievement in school.

Maths

In Year 5 the children will continue to cover the national curriculum which is focused on understanding of fractions. The children will learn to compare and order fractions whose denominators are multiples of the same number and identify, name and write equivalent fractions of a given fraction, represented visually including tenths and hundredths. They will learn to recognise mixed numbers and improper fractions and convert from one form to the other. The children will also add and subtract fractions with the same denominator and denominators that are multiples of the same number. The children will learn about decimals with 3 decimal places and begin to develop an understanding of percentages. Additionally, the children will continue to develop their fluency skills by practising calculating in all four operations.

In Year 6 the children will continue to use their arithmetic skills to answer daily fluency questions in preparation for the KS2 SATS Arithmetic paper. They will also study decimals and percentages including multiplying and dividing decimals. They will solve problems involving the calculation of percentages [for example, of measures and such as 15% of 360] and use percentages for comparison. The children will be expected to recall and use equivalences between simple fractions, decimals and percentages including in different contexts. In algebra they will learn to use simple formulae and find pairs of numbers that satisfy an equation with two unknowns. Other topics covered include measurement and conversion of units, area, perimeter and volume and ratio and proportion.

Learning Challenge

The first of our learning challenges is entitled 'How can I manage my emotions?' and the children have been thinking about how they can manage feelings of boredom, worry and stress. They have thought of some excellent ways to relieve stress both at home and school. Maybe they will share them with you! Following this we will be studying geography through the learning challenge 'Will my children visit the same beach as me?' which will be based around coastal erosion and the settlement of coastal areas. Our RE learning this term will be focussed on 'Can Jesus be described as a hero?' as we learn about what Christians believe about Jesus dying and coming back to life. In the second half of the spring term there will be a science focus as we study Earth and Space. In PE the children will be developing their skills in ball games through a focus on netball and in dance they will explore their creative side by designing and learning their own dances based on the theme of beaches. The music curriculum will be covered by Cambridgeshire music and in computing we will go on a virtual reality exploration to the coast.

Reminders

- Please ensure that your child has a **full PE kit** in school **every day of the week**. PE days do change and we can not always give you notice of this. Our sports coaches are disappointed with the number of children who do not have kit in school!
- Homework for Y5 will continue to be based on the mental workout books and weekly spellings. In Y6 children will have homework based on their learning in class and this will be centred around maths and reading.
- SATS week begins on the 11th May 2020 for children in Y6.

If you do have any queries or would like to talk to us please do not hesitate to do so.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Atkin
(On behalf of the Y5/6 Teaching Team)