

And in the blink of an eye we've arrived at term 5!

It was so lovely to see so many of you at our Family Learning Conferences last term, we hope you all had a fantastic break and are recovering from over-indulging with Easter Eggs.

So, term 5 looks a bit like this...

Maths

Lessons will be more practical this term as we start with measuring, drawing and finding missing angles of shapes and around a point. We then move on to properties of 2-D and 3-D shape, exploring nets of 3-D shapes as well as drawing and creating some of our own. Finally we will finish the term with some algebra where we will be solving and writing our own equations and formulae.

Throughout all of this we will also be revisiting number and calculation at the beginning of each lesson, to ensure it remains embedded in the children's minds, as well as looking at our fortnightly times table focus.

English

This term starts with a whole school Reading based fortnight. We will be using the text of 'Holes' by Louis Sachar and will be exploring the language as well as our understanding of the text. 5KW will also be able to make comparisons between this text and the one they studied by the same author in term 4.

The children will then be able to apply the skills they learnt during their debating lessons to the genre of persuasive writing, possibly even finishing up by writing a persuasive letter to the author about various aspects of the story.

Please note that we are likely to show the film of 'Holes' to the children at some point during the term. It is rated as 'PG' so please speak to one of us before May 1st if you do not wish for your child to be part of this screening.

Topic

We will start the term by finishing our Forces topic from term 4. Unfortunately we simply ran out of time last term and it would be such a shame to miss out on the remaining investigations we had planned.

From 1st May we will be starting our new and final topic of the year - The Circle of Life. **Please can all children bring in an empty large glass jar (jam, pasta sauce, etc) or a clear colourless bottle (lemonade, water, etc) that week for an investigation we will be carrying out.**

We will be looking at life cycles of various plants and animals, and hopefully linking this to a couple of school trips throughout term 5 and 6.

PE

Our PE days will continue to be a Tuesday (pm) and Friday (pm). Please ensure your child has their PE kit (House coloured PE Top, dark coloured bottoms, and trainers/daps) in school on these days, it is named, and that it is appropriate for the season as their lesson will sometimes take place outside.

Homework

As you will know by now Spelling is set **fortnightly** on a **Tuesday**, following the weekly test and dictation. Please see the website for more information on Hillcrest's 'No Nonsense' approach to the teaching and learning of spelling. In a nutshell, we aim to create good spellers, rather than children who can remember a list of words. The homework produced will take pride of place on the interactive class wall, to be celebrated and benefit each other's learning.

Times table tasks are also set **fortnightly** on a **Tuesday**, with a times table test every Tuesday during our maths lesson.

One of the best ways you can support your child with their learning/homework however is to simply talk to them about what they have been doing in class. Asking your child to demonstrate and explain a concept will show whether they truly understand it or not.

Please rest assured that we always strive to do the best for all of the children in our care so if there is anything you wish to ask or discuss then please come and speak to us or someone in the main office.

Regards,

Mrs Willis and Miss Braddock