

Year 5 Autumn Term

September 2021

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! Hope you all had a good break. For those parents/guardians who I have not had the opportunity to meet, I would like to introduce myself as your child's year 5 teacher and Mrs Kirk as our learning support practitioner. I hope you all had a lovely summer holiday. In Year 5, we have some exciting learning coming up during autumn term.

English

We will be exploring a range of fiction, non-fiction and poetry texts during the autumn term. One of the texts we are looking at is 'The Butterfly Lion' by Michael Morpurgo.

Each week, children will do an extended piece of writing to practise the process of planning, drafting and making improvements to their own work as well as their peers. Writing will also be developed throughout the curriculum.

Guided reading will continue to take place each week and home reading books will be allocated to each pupil. The book that we are reading first in Guided reading is 'The Witches' by Roald Dahl. Children will have a weekly reading comprehension session in order to develop their understanding of texts. Please remember to record any reading in your child's reading record where possible.

SPaG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) will be also be taught during English sessions. There is a huge emphasis on spelling in the Year 6 SATs and we want to prepare the children well in advance; therefore, it is crucial that children are learning their spellings at home each week. Spellings will come home on a Friday ready for a test the following Friday.

Handwriting will be practised throughout the week in school. Handwriting pens will now be given out by Mrs Crozier and Mrs Rogman. When I feel that your child is ready for a pen, they will have to show Mrs Crozier and Mrs Rogman that their handwriting is consistently neat with the correct joins across all subjects. Handwriting pens can also be taken away from children if their handwriting becomes inconsistent.

Maths

The topics that will be covered in maths during the autumn term are:

- ✓ Place value
- ✓ Addition and Subtraction
- ✓ Multiplication (Prime numbers)
- ✓ Multiplication and division
- ✓ Fractions
- ✓ Decimals
- ✓ Percentages
- ✓ Measurement
- ✓ Geometry

Each week children will have mental arithmetic tests and times tables tests. Children will also have a login in for Times Table Rock Stars which they can access at home.

Topic

Our autumn term topic will be the Ancient Egyptians. The children will learn about the Egyptians and important events that happened throughout this period in history. The children will also be exploring Egyptian society, including the pharaohs and pyramids, as well as creating their own Egyptian artefacts.

They will then explore the geographical features of the River Nile and its importance to the Egyptians for transportation.

Science

Forces – The children will be looking at a range of different forces, including gravity, air resistance, water resistance and friction. They will also be developing an understanding of balanced and unbalanced forces and their effects. Later in the topic they will investigate how mechanisms, like levers, pulleys and gears, can help us to use smaller forces.

Materials – The children will compare and group together every day materials on the basis of their properties. They will know that some materials will dissolve in liquid to form a solution and use their knowledge of solids, liquids and gases to decide how mixtures might be separated. Children will explore reversible and irreversible changes.

French

Children will learn to pronounce, write and read French vocabulary based around the themes ‘on holiday’ and ‘eating out’. Children will engage with language through catchy songs and illustrated stories.

PE

PE will be led by our PE coaches and will take place on a Thursday afternoon. Children can wear their P.E kits to school on this day.

The other P.E session will be swimming on a Wednesday. Please make sure your child has a swimming kit on this day.

Music

During music this term, children will be learning to play the ukulele. This will be on a Wednesday afternoon.

RE

This term the children will be exploring how there are different religions within the community of Sandwell and how we can be respectful of this. After this, the children will be exploring Hindu, Jewish and Islamic prayer, including where it takes place and the reasons why they pray.

PSHE

To begin the new term, the focus in PSHE will be based on the theme of ‘Being me in my world’. This will support children in settling back into school after lockdown as well as supporting children to settle into Year 5. We will then move onto learning about celebrating differences.

Computing

This term the children will be learning how to develop their own “choose your own adventure” story using Microsoft PowerPoint. The children will begin the topic by being introduced to flowcharts and will be using draw.io, available free at <https://www.draw.io/>, to help them create their flowcharts to plan their story and the different options they could take. They will then begin programming their own prototype which can be developed after testing to improve the functionality of their story. Throughout computing, the children will also be exploring e-safety and how they can keep themselves online.

Homework

Homework will be handed out on Fridays and should be returned by the following Friday. Children will be given a spelling test every Friday and new spellings will be sent home every Friday with their homework. It is important that children practise their times tables on Timestable Rockstars.

Please ensure that your child brings two drink’s bottle to school with them if possible, as we cannot use the water fountain to fill drinks at the moment.

If you have any questions or concerns about Year 5 please do not hesitate to contact me. You can either phone the school, or email me at year5.als@annielennard.sandwell.sch.uk. I am looking forward to the year ahead.

Thank you for all of your support,

Mrs Groves and Mrs Kirk.